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## ITALY AND FRANCE.

THE Garibaldians have certainly succeeded in making the Roman question once more the great question of the day. Counting what has actually been done with what has been generally supposed, to have been done, the events of the last few weeks have altogether been very dramatic; and no one can say whether, at this moment, some positive dénouement be not at hand. Garibaldi had so often declared that he would, one day, and at the earliest opportunity, recommence his expedition to Rome, that no one was prepared for the new expedition when he began seriously to occupy himself with it. A month ago Garibaldi was travelling about Italy, delivering speeches wherever he stopped against the Pope, enlisting recruits, and making all necessary preparations for invading the Papal territory. But it was so natural that Garibaldi should deliver speeches against the Pope, and he had so often said that he would "washaway the one remaining stain from the face of Italy," that the words uttered by him at Bologna, at Milan, and, last of all, at Geneva, did not obtain quite so much consideration as they really deserved. Although Garibaldi had said as plainly as possible that he was on the point of invading Rome, no one believed that the event so often prophesied was at last about to come off. It was not until the news of his arrest was received that everyone understood how much in earnest he had been. The arrest of Garibaldi was, according to some chroniclers, the signal for the invasion of the Roman territory, or, as a Garibaldian would put it, for the march of the army destined to liberate the Romans. But the fact is, the invasion had already been fixed for a certain day. The seizure and impi-

sonment of Garibaldi did not paralyse the movement, nor, on the other hand, did it hasten it.

No sooner had the invasion taken place than the question arose, whether the Italian Government had aided it, and,

been "concentrated" on the frontier. One would think that, if the object of the Italian Government had really been to prevent the Garibaldian attack, it would not have concentrated its forces, but would, as much as possible, have extended

them. In any case, it is to be remarked that no collision has anywhere taken place between the soldiers of the Italian army and the Garibaldians; and it is not surprising that the Ultramontane organs and the organs of the French Government should agree in thinking that the expected meeting between those placed in sufficient numbers to guard a frontier and those who were notoriously bent on crossing that frontier has purposely been avoided. The agents of the Italian Government knew where to find and how to stop the progress of Garibaldi; but the thousands who have since taken the path along which Garibaldi was to have led them, have not been interfered with at all. A French newspaper, borrowing Count Bismarck's illustration in respect to the real value of the river Main as a boundary between North and South Germany, says that the cordon formed by the Italian troops was a grating through which the Garibaldians passed like water. Though they may have gained some temporary successes, they seem, on the whole, to have been worsted whenever they met the Pontifical troops in open fight. Still, the numbers of the invaders went on increasing, and they have ended by establishing themselves either on Papal territory



INTERIOR OF THE NEW MALT AND HOP EXCHANGE, SOUTHWARK.—(R. H. MOORE, ESQ., ARCHITECT.)

if so, to what extent. The Italian Government had engaged, by the celebrated September Convention, to keep the Roman frontier secure against all attacks from the Italian side; yet the Garibaldian bands must have been organised under the eyes of the Italian troops. The Italian army is said to have

or on more safe border land between Rome and that Italy which, publicly, in its Chamber of Representatives, has claimed Rome as its capital.

Whatever the truth on the subject may be, the Pope has certainly been made to believe that Italy has connived at

the invasion of his States, and it was reported a few days ago that he had addressed representations on the subject to the chief Catholic Governments of Europe. Italy, on the other hand, in consideration of the fact that some of the Garibaldian bands are entering the Papal territory, displayed the Republican flag—thus menacing the Government of Victor Emmanuel—was said to have resolved to occupy Rome. According to another rumour on this same subject, the Italian army was to enter Rome, not in the interest of Victor Emmanuel but in that of the Pope himself—his Holiness being evidently incapable of holding his ground against the bands of liberators advancing against him.

The great object in circulating these stories, neither of which appears on examination to possess any solid foundation, has no doubt been to convict the Italian Government of having broken the September Convention. To make so grave a step as this seem more probable Prussia is introduced on the scene, and we are assured (also without any proof being given) that the Garibaldians are armed with needle-guns, and, of course, that these needle-guns must have been sent to them by the terrible M. de Bismarck. This new element of intrigue, though it complicates the drama, at the same time gives meaning to the general action, and points clearly enough to the introduction of one more principal character, after which the number of the dramatic persons will be complete. If the September Convention had been broken by the Italian Government, deliberately or under a sudden impulse, or under the pressure of irresistible circumstances, France would in either case have a right to protest, and, if necessary, to support her protest by action; but, if the Italian Government had violated the Convention at the instigation of Prussia, and with a promise of Prussian support, such a provocation to France could not possibly remain unanswered.

The belief in France that the Italian Government had determined to occupy Rome was so general in Paris a few days ago that, putting aside the official papers—which never know anything until for State purposes they are ordered to know it—the Paris journals might have been divided into those which maintained that Italy would occupy Rome under the pretext of protecting the Pope, and those which maintained that she would occupy it on the plea of putting down a revolutionary movement dangerous to herself. That Prussia has recommended the invasion of Rome, and has given it not only her countenance, but also her support, will still, no doubt, remain an article of faith with French politicians. We are not, by any means, sure that the French politicians are wrong; but their eagerness to detect the hand of Prussia in every hostile movement, or movement supposed to be hostile, to France is very significant. Many alarming rumours have been spread in connection with the present very confused position of the German question; but the most alarming of all is that which assigns to Prussia the leading part on one side of the question and France a leading part on the other.

#### THE NEW HOP AND MALT EXCHANGE, SOUTHWARK.

WHILE the corn and coal trades have commodious buildings for the conduct of business, the hop and malt trades have hitherto been unprovided with a public exchange, and the whole of the numerous transactions in these commodities have been carried on in private offices in the Borough, to the great inconvenience of merchants and factors. To supply this want, which has long been felt, a limited-liability company was formed, according to the usual custom of the present day. The site chosen for the new exchange was in New Southwark-street, London Bridge, in the immediate neighbourhood of all the large hop warehouses and offices, and a plot of ground was obtained of about half an acre in extent. The frontage thus obtained to the new street is 340 ft., and in Redcross-street above 75 ft. The first stone of the building was laid on Aug. 31 of last year, and since then the works have been rapidly pushed forward, so that the structure is now virtually completed, and its opening for the transaction of business took place on Wednesday last. At the commencement of the undertaking many difficulties had to be encountered, the foundations especially giving great trouble to the architect, Mr. R. H. Moore, who has himself superintended the construction throughout. The facade in Southwark-street is a very imposing one, and dwarfs all the surrounding warehouses, large as most of them are. It has an elevation of about 100 ft. above the level of the pavement, and consists of twelve stories of rooms. The effect of the whole is, unfortunately, greatly marred by the ugly, irregular, curve given to the front elevation; but for this the architect is hardly responsible, though we cannot but think that it might have been slightly modified. Portland-stone pedestals, about 5 ft. high, extend along the whole front, and form the base of cast-iron ornamental columns. Above the cornice, which crowns these columns, the building is executed in brick and Portland cement, except the keystones and the corbels to the windows, which are of stone; and the whole is surmounted by a bold cornice, carried on trusses and running the entire length of the front. The principal entrance is placed at the east or London-bridge end of the building, nearly opposite the Alliance Bank. It is flanked with pillars of Portland stone about 25 ft. high, with caps and entablature well carved in Compton stone. The vestibule consists of a centre and two side arches, and the inner arcade has a panelled ceiling, supported by four polished Irish red marble columns, supported on green marble pilasters. This arcade leads at once into the lofty exchange-room, which is 80 ft. long by 50 ft. in width. It is 75 ft. high to the cornice, from which springs a glazed iron roof, the crown of which is 115 ft. from the floor. Around the walls are three tiers of ornamental cast-iron galleries, access to which is obtained by stone staircases at opposite angles of the exchange, and one inside the principal entrance. On to these galleries the various show-rooms and offices open, so that, with the ground floor, there are thus four tiers of them. A refreshment-room is attached to the exchange, which also leads into the subscription-room, 40 ft. by 35 ft. Along one end of this room a gallery is carried, affording access to a set of offices fronting the street. A large portion of the building being designed as warehouses, a fireproof floor is carried on wrought-iron girders beneath the offices, thus making a thorough separation between them and the stores. The area of the warehouse room exceeds 220,000 superficial feet, or sufficient for the storage of 50,000 bales of hops or other produce; and there is, in addition, cellarage for about 3000 barrels of ale. Machinery is now being fixed for the purpose of loading and unloading from the warehouses. Seven cranes have already been erected, worked by a fixed steam-engine of 8-horse power, which is also designed to pump water to the cisterns at the top of the building. The water is obtained from a deep well sunk on the premises, and the possession of such a copious supply as is thus afforded would be invaluable in case of fire.

The cost of the entire building up to the present is £40,000, and it is estimated that the total cost will amount to about £10,000 more. There are in all about one hundred offices, and it is anticipated that the rents will together amount to about £30,000 per annum. The first-floor offices already let realise nearly double the estimate which had been previously formed for them, so that, even if the sanguine hopes of its promoters are not entirely realised, the undertaking promises to be a more than ordinarily profitable one.

#### Foreign Intelligence.

##### FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon, accompanied by the Empress and the Prince Imperial, returned to St. Cloud on Tuesday. A Cabinet Council, presided over by the Emperor, was held on Wednesday, it is believed to consider one of the gravest questions that the Imperial Government has had to determine since its establishment. It is now currently reported that Signor Rattazzi and his colleagues have been carried away by the popular excitement, and have practically repudiated the September Convention. On the other hand, it is said that the Emperor Napoleon has made up his mind to enforce the maintenance of that compact, and has given notice to the Italian Government that if its troops crossed the Papal frontier, or if Rome itself should appear to be in any danger from the Garibaldians, a French army would again occupy the Holy City. To that intimation the Italian Government is understood to have replied that it would regard such an occupation as a rupture of friendly relations between France and Italy. It was to determine the course to be taken under those circumstances, or, more correctly, to hear the determination to which the Emperor had already come, that the Privy Council met on Wednesday. Whatever that determination may be, whether for the Pope or against him, it will be fraught with momentous consequences for France and Europe. Information on the subject is eagerly looked for.

##### SPAIN.

Several journals assert that Chili has declared herself disposed to treat direct with Spain in reference to the conclusion of a treaty of peace and amity.

Queen Christina before her departure for Aranjuez is said to have advised Queen Isabella to appoint Count San Luis to post of Minister of the Interior, with the view of giving the policy of her Majesty's Government a more liberal tone.

##### ITALY.

We know little more of the insurrection in the Papal provinces than that it grows. The Papal troops are much harassed in their endeavours to check the insurgents. The efforts made to prevent the concentration of the insurgents under Menotti Garibaldi at the town of Nerola have been defeated. They attacked the revolutionary force with cavalry and artillery, but were beaten and driven back in great disorder. On the other hand, the Paris *Moniteur* announces the defeat of a body of Garibaldians who barred the road to Monte Librate. The Florence *Nazione*, on the contrary, declares that the insurgents defeated the Papal troops at Monte Librate, but adds that the Garibaldians subsequently evacuated the place. The Italian press is unanimous in its demand for the occupation of the Papal territory. The Pope has convoked a meeting of the Cardinals to deliberate on present events. Meantime the insurgents increase in number more and more. It is evident that Rome is all but surrounded, and that skirmishes have taken place at the very gates of the city. One of the Roman official papers, however, says that, with the exception of Nerola, no other portion of Pontifical territory is at present occupied by the insurgents. Florence telegrams, on the other hand, say that the greater part of Frosinone is occupied by the Garibaldians. The friends of the temporal power and the Papacy are said to be arriving in Rome from all parts of Catholic Europe for the defence of the Pope. On the other hand, the Liberal youth of Italy are proceeding by hundreds and thousands to augment the ranks of the Garibaldians; and, strange as it may seem, the whole of Catholic Italy appears to be as determined to have the Eternal City for the political capital of united Italy as some of the Catholics outside of Italy appear resolved that it shall continue the religious capital of Catholicity. The Queen of Spain is said to be anxious for a Spanish intervention, but both Navarez and Gonzalez Bravo—reactionary though they be—refuse to commit the Government to such a proceeding, and the *Milan Gazette* announces the arrival there of several young Spaniards with the intention of joining the Garibaldians.

The telegraphic intelligence received is exceedingly confused and contradictory. In fact, the truth about Italian affairs seems to be in the centre of a labyrinth, where it requires no small exertions to discover it. We are told, on dubious authority, that Rattazzi had, by order of the King, telegraphed to the Commander-in-Chief of the Italian troops to march directly on the Pontifical provinces, even as far as Rome, and to make their way by force, if absolutely necessary. Victor Emmanuel's Government proposed to publish a manifesto to the effect that, on account of the evident impossibility of the Pontifical troops to defend the Roman territory, and even the person of the Pope, and having been informed that the revolutionary party proposed taking advantage of the rebellion for the purpose of proclaiming the republic of Rome, the Italian Government has adopted the best and only course for protecting Pius IX. against open violence and upholding constitutional principles. On the other hand, private advice tells us that the Cabinet of Florence was very much disappointed at the slow development of the insurrection, and that the continued successes of the Pontifical troops made it so uneasy that, in order to add to the number of the Garibaldian forces, several detachments of the Italian army were made to change their green coats for "red shirts," and, thus disguised, sent to join the insurgents. The Roman Government has, it declares, material proofs of this fact, consisting in arms and other articles of military equipment bearing the numbers of the regiments stationed on the frontiers. Whatever may be the truth of this, Antonelli has drawn up a protest on the subject, which has communicated to all the foreign envoys now present in Rome.

A statement appears in the French papers that Cardinal Antonelli has addressed a despatch to the English Government, complaining that the insurgents are supplied with money and arms from England. This, the Cardinal says, could easily be prevented; and adds that it is poor repayment for the earnestness with which the Holy See has discouraged Fenianism. This despatch is said to have been made known through the French Government. It looks very much like a forgery.

A letter from Florence says:—"The deputy Crispi has been sent to Caprera, at the request of the President of the Council, to employ all his influence on the mind of General Garibaldi. It is believed that the efforts of this eminent citizen may contribute to bring back the concord so desirable. The resignation of Roman officers in the Italian army continue: following the example of Major Ghirelli, they go to swell the ranks of the insurgents."

The Papal army consists of the celebrated legion of Antibes—about 1000 men, many having deserted; a regiment of artillery, effective, numbering 1018, divided into five batteries (two foot, two mountain, and one coastguard); from this regiment nineteen Swiss have lately deserted. The Zouaves amount to 2300, many of them belonging to families of distinction, and holding Legitimist and Ultramontane opinions. These will undoubtedly fight; but 1200 of them complete their time of service at the end of the year, and will leave Rome then should the Garibaldi movement be suppressed. The Cacciatori may be set down at 1200 men; and besides these there remain 6000 native troops and gendarmes, whose fidelity cannot be counted upon.

The Florence Central Committee, established in aid of the Roman instruction, have issued the following address:—

Italian.—You have responded, and will continue to respond, to our appeal, which was none other than a cry from the soul revealing a duty. The feeling which animated us was shared by all. For us, sons and soldiers

of the people, members of a Parliament which has declared Rome to be the capital of Italy, conscious that that vote expressed the will of the nation, the invitation was simple, as it should be. Fighting and death were going on; the September Convention was already broken in blood; the time for argument was at an end. What, then, remained? To aid those who are burying the temporal power of the Popes, so that it may no longer taint the air. Now we declare that the die cast by the insurgents has been taken up by Italy, and Italy, under pain of death, must speedily fulfil the duty enjoined upon her by so many centuries of misfortune, by all her thinkers, by all her martyrs. In order that the plebiscitum may not be a vain thing, that the reasons and pretexts for squandering may cease, that administrative anarchy may perish, that reaction may be driven from its haunt, and that conscience may again be held sacred to the world—Italians, to Rome! What more, what blood, will ever bear more fruitful result than this? Show that the cry of Garibaldi is the voice of the national conscience. He is a prisoner in his island. A fault and a misfortune; but his soul is everywhere. It now calls the Romans to assemble in their piazzas, and invites Italy finally to reach the Capitol. Victory lies in clearly defining the object of the battle, and we desire that the Pope may remain Pope for those who believe in him. Rapidity of action is also necessary. And will not Italy speedily furnish every means? Men who know how to die abound among us. But that is not sufficient. Material resources are required, in order that there may not be a vain hecatomb of so many precious lives; that the love of country may not be punished by hunger and abandonment, and that the sick and wounded may be properly attended. Italians! succour the combatants!

##### GERMANY.

In the Federal Council, on Tuesday, Count Bismarck announced that the treaty of commerce and navigation with Italy had been signed at Florence. The Federal Council then adopted the budget as voted by the Parliament, the Postage Bill, and the bill proposing a loan of 10,000,000 thalers for the Federal Marine and for coast defences.

At the sitting of the Baden Chambers, on Monday, Baron von Freydrich, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, replied to a question respecting Prince Hohenlohe's statement in the Bavarian Diet. His Excellency said that the negotiations for union with the North German Confederation had only reached the preliminary stage. The Grand Duke of Baden had not hitherto expressed himself as to his relations with Austria. The Baden Government believed that the time was approaching when the southern States might join the new Germany in process of creation with equal rights. It would endeavour to place the country in a position to demand national union, and would be glad if it could be effected in concert with the adjacent States. The Government would be quite willing to agree with the other southern States upon all preparatory steps.

##### AUSTRIA.

On Monday the Emperor was waited upon by a deputation from the common council of Vienna, who presented his Majesty with an address intended as a counter-appeal to the recent address of the Austrian prelates on the subject of education and the Concordat. The Emperor received the deputation most graciously, and declared that he would refer their address to the Cabinet. He also said:—

I must express my conviction that the Municipal Council, whose active endeavours for the amelioration and perfection of the system of education for the people I fully recognise, is far from being desirous to lessen in any way the influence exercised by religion over the public schools; the characters of the teachers, or the nature of the instruction, for this deputation will, I am sure, share with me the persuasion that religion must ever form the most essential basis of all true and moral popular education.

The Emperor has addressed an autograph letter to the Prince Archbishop Rauscher, in reply to the address of the Austrian prelates respecting the Concordat. The letter is as follows:—

The address forwarded to me by the Archbishops and Bishops I have handed over to my responsible Ministry. I willingly appreciate the pastoral zeal and the well-meaning intentions which made it appear to the Bishops to be a matter of conscience to stand forward again, as in 1849 and 1861, with a solemn declaration in favour of the preservation of the rights and interests of the Catholic Church. Yet I must complain that, instead of supporting, in accordance with my wishes, the earnest endeavours of the Government in Church questions, and instead of advancing their most pressing solution in a spirit of mutual conciliation, the Bishops have preferred to increase the difficulties of the task at a time when, as they themselves very correctly remark, unity is so necessary to us, and when it is so urgently enjoined upon us not to add to the causes of dissension and complaint. I trust that the Bishops will be convinced that I shall at all times protect and shelter the Church; but I trust that they will also remember the duties which I as a Constitutional ruler have to perform.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath the revised fundamental law of the Constitution was read a second time, with several unimportant modifications, and with additional provisions in reference to the competency of the Reichenbergh in the formal treatment of matters common to Austria and Hungary. The bills on the fundamental laws in reference to the powers of the judges and of the Executive, the rights of the citizens and the establishment of a supreme judicial tribunal for the Cis-Leithan provinces, were then read a third time and passed by a considerable majority.

##### TURKEY.

The Turkish Grand Vizier arrived in Crete on the 4th inst., and proclaimed an amnesty. The insurgent chiefs, however, protest against this amnesty, and demand an international commission of inquiry and universal suffrage. The new Administration which Fuad Pacha is authorised to establish in Crete is formed on the following basis:—A Turkish Governor-General, sub-governors in the districts where the Greek population form the majority; reduction of the taxes, customs duties upon salt and other articles; and full and complete justice to the population indiscriminately. The foreign representatives are waiting to learn the result of these propositions of the Ottoman empire. In the mean time they hold themselves quite aloof from the subject. A body of 6000 men has left Constantinople for Widdin.

##### THE UNITED STATES.

General Canby has ordered the military of North Carolina not to oppose the civil processes of the Federal Courts.

The election in Alabama has resulted in favour of the Reconstruction Convention. The whites took little interest in the proceedings.

During the election in Louisiana the white citizens attacked the negro voters at the polls in Jefferson City. Several negroes were wounded, and the leader of the rioters was killed. The military quelled the disturbance.

The rumours of Cabinet changes are revived. It is reported that Mr. McCulloch will soon retire, and that Mr. Thomas Ewing will succeed him.

The New York State Democratic Convention assembled on the 4th inst. It nominated Mr. Homer Nelson, Secretary of the State, and the other candidates for the approaching election. Resolutions were adopted pledging the party to redeem the State from corruption and misrule, and denouncing the attempt of Congress to enforce negro supremacy in the South by military rule.

##### MEXICO.

Advices from Mexico to the 10th ult. state that Admiral Tegelhoff was still negotiating to obtain the body of the late Emperor Maximilian.

Santa Anna remained a prisoner at Vera Cruz.

**OLD AND NEW CALABAR.**—The African mail just arrived tells us that trade is at a standstill in New Calabar, on account of the war raging between that place and the Eroke tribes. Those warriors act strictly upon Napoleon's maxim, that "war ought to support war." On Sept. 14 they fought a battle, in which the New Calabarians lost forty prisoners, and the Erokes cooked and ate every "man jack" of these hapless heroes, who, "faithful to death," will be pretty sure, we should think, to "disagree with" their victors. A "return dinner" is fiercely threatened by the vanquished of that very delightful region of the earth. But Old Calabar seems about as agreeable a locality. A chief has just died there named Fifima Adam; and as the flesh-men could not make out what induced him to die, his six wives, with all the household, fell under suspicion of foul play, and were ordered to drink the "esere," or Calabar bean-wasser. This is a method of justice on the "heads-I-win, tails-you-lose" principle; but innocence is no earthly good without the possession also of a stomach like an elephant's. When the mail left, the digestive organs of five of the palace ladies and of three attendants had already "pealed guilty" and succumbed, and not one of the unhappy "defendants" is expected to survive.

## GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

GREENWICH is the noblest of European hospitals. Few of those however, who visit the glades of Greenwich Park, or indulge in the costly luxury of whitebait dinners at the Ship or the Trafalgar, know more of the hospital than that it is a refuge for old seamen; and, although Parliamentary discussions have, of late years, thrown some light on the internal economy and management of this institution, yet those discussions have been so desultory, and have occurred at such long intervals, that some account of the past history and present position of the hospital will, probably, present many particulars new to some of our readers.

King Charles II. has the merit of proposing a foundation for the benefit of wounded and disabled seamen belonging to the Navy. The idea, however, was not put into execution until after the victory of La Hogue, achieved under William and Mary, in the month of May, 1692. Shortly after that event it was publicly announced that Queen Mary would raise a lasting monument of the gratitude which England felt for the courage and patriotism of her sailors. A plan was furnished, gratuitously, by Sir Christopher Wren, and two years afterwards the asylum known as Greenwich Hospital was constructed on an eminently appropriate site on the margin of the Thames.

The hospital was incorporated by Royal charter, primarily, "for the relief and support of seamen serving on board the ships and vessels of the Navy Royal, or employed in our service at sea, who, by reason of age, wounds, or other disabilities, shall be incapable of further service at sea, or be unable to maintain themselves." A variety of subsequent grants and Acts of Parliament extended the scope of this original foundation, but left the primary design untouched. It is abundantly clear from all the documents relating to the hospital that its advantages were designed to be restricted to seamen actually employed in the Royal Navy at the time of their becoming incapacitated, and were not designed for seamen in the merchant service, or for commissioned officers of the Royal Navy, both of whom at various periods have claimed to share in the benefits of the institution.

The number of pensioners in Greenwich Hospital has varied very much indeed from time to time, and would seem to have been proportioned in a great degree to the number of disabled seamen requiring assistance in consequence of naval engagements. In periods of peace the number of seamen borne upon the books has been small; in times of war it has been large. Thus the greatest number of pensioners ever borne upon the books of the hospital was in 1814, when the complement was no less than 2710. The gradual removal by death of the survivors of the war, the protracted peace, the decreased naval armament, the extension of commerce and of the merchant service increasing the demand for seamen, and the facilities of obtaining other employment at home and abroad—all these, together with the opportunities given by the Admiralty for obtaining out-pensions, and their improved scale, occasioned, at more recent periods, a progressive decrease in the number of applicants and inmates; until at last, in 1860, there came to be no less than 1124 vacancies in the hospital, which the authorities were unable to fill up.

In addition to all the other causes which operated to empty Greenwich Hospital, it must be stated that there has arisen of late years an increasing unwillingness on the part of many seamen of the most valuable class to enter this hospital at all. In so far as this feeling arose from a desire to avoid entering an institution of an eleemosynary character, it was highly to be commended and encouraged; but the dislike of our sailors to the establishment arose also from another class of causes connected with the management and discipline of the hospital itself. The mode of obtaining admission, the absence of any efficient system of classification in the hospital, the want of any provision for the amusement, occupation, or employment of the inmates, the mode of enforcing discipline and punishing disobedience, and, above all, the severance of the pensioner from his family and friends, were all causes that contributed very largely to make the name of "Greenwich" highly disagreeable to the British seaman.

The mode of admission was by application to the Admiralty, and, as the Admiralty has always been notorious for the impious red-tape manner in which it treated naval officers of every degree, it can be easily imagined how the sailor fared who had to run the gauntlet of its clerks and officials.

Upon application to the Admiralty from a party desiring admission, the Admiralty "issued an official form!" The difficulties of poor Jack in filling up this "official form" with all the necessary particulars required by the Admiralty may be more easily conceived than described. The "official form" was to be returned to the Admiralty "to be compared with the office records." If, on such comparison, his claim appears to be well founded, he is desired to present himself at the Admiralty; but in whatever part of the country he may reside his journey to London must be performed at his own cost and risk." Here we see how our officials, even in such a matter as obtaining an admission to a pauper hospital, have managed to arrange "how not to do it." Admiral Sir Charles Napier, in his evidence before the Greenwich Hospital Commissioners, illustrated the working of these "official forms"—"An instance occurred the other day to a poor man in Dundee. I think he had written to the Admiralty to give him a small out-pension. The answer he received was that he was not eligible for the pension, but that if he thought proper to come up to London and to apply at Somerset House, he would be then examined; but they must tell him that, unless he was completely worn out and unfit, he was not eligible for the hospital. I wrote to the Admiralty to say that I thought that was an odd sort of way in which to give a man an answer, and I wanted to know how the poor man, who was to come up to London from Dundee on the chance of getting into the hospital, was to find the money; and, secondly, how he was to get back again?"

Sir Charles Napier "wanting to know, you know," and my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty inviting a disabled seaman to come up from Dundee to London at his own expense to be examined by the board, "assisted by the medical officers and the chief clerk of the pension department," are both eminently characteristic.

It was naturally found, under such circumstances as these, that few but the most unworthy applicants asked for or got admission to the hospital. The commissioners report that, despite all the "official forms" of the Admiralty, "there are very few modes of ascertaining character, and none whatever of discovering his motives for seeking admission. These motives are sometimes of the most unworthy kind, such as a wish to escape from creditors, or to abandon his wife and family. Whatever his motives or his character, if he falls within the regulations of the Admiralty, he is at once formally admitted, and he receives the order for entrance."

Various vexations and annoyances awaited, however, the successful candidate for admission to Greenwich. "In the institution all distinctions of rank were effaced. Men who have attained the rank of petty, or even warrant officers, are practically disgraced, and mingle indiscriminately with ordinary seamen and the refuse of the naval service. Distinguished seamen of many years' standing who have been wounded and maimed in action, or otherwise disabled on duty, are confounded with others who have never known active service at all, and who are to be regarded rather as labourers or as domestic servants than as seamen. This disregard of the most obvious principles and advantages of classification is undoubtedly one of the reasons of the unsatisfactory state of the community at Greenwich Hospital, and of the disesteem in the naval service into which the asylum has fallen."

One of the practical objections to Greenwich Hospital would scarcely be believed if it were not put on record by the hospital authorities themselves. The following is from the evidence of the Military Superintendent:—"Chairman—The wards have been described as much infested with vermin?—That must be expected from the plan which is now pursued. In the month of June orders are given to the pensioners to take their bedsteads out and scrub them. The cabins are also scrubbed. . . . This scrubbing just gives the vermin a bath, and in a week or two they are more numerous than before, and there they remain and increase until the next June. . . . When wards are turned out for a general

repair, it is a perfect sight to see the bugs. I have heard of a string of bugs a yard in length."

These insects are said to be imported into the Hospital "by men who frequent low places in Greenwich." But why do they "frequent low places in Greenwich?" Herein appears to have been one of the most serious drawbacks to the whole establishment:—"The wives of the pensioners are wholly ignored, and their circumstances are deplorable. From the hospital they receive nothing except the distribution of the broken food of the hall and the rations of men on short leave of absence. Even when they wash their husbands' linen, they receive no part of the saving which thereby accrues to the hospital. . . . All the man can obtain is wholly insufficient to provide lodging, clothing, and food for his wife and family. They are consequently consigned to extreme penury and wretchedness, and, in some instances, become chargeable to the parish."

Worse than that, it was established that the wives and other female members of the families of the pensioners infested Greenwich and Woolwich as streetwalkers, accounting at once for "the low places in Greenwich" which the pensioners frequented.

One cause of this very serious evil arose from the "very stinted allowance of pocket-money assigned to the pensioners." On admission to the hospital, each seaman was made to relinquish any pension he might have gained in the service. "He is thenceforth paid by the institution, under the name of tobacco-money, the sum of one shilling a week, which is understood to be a provision for various humble comforts, as well as for pocket allowance." The practical effect of these parsimonious restrictions was at once offensive and demoralising. "They induced many pensioners to present themselves before visitors to this great national asylum in the character of ordinary beggars. They forced others to seek, in places of the lowest description about Greenwich, menial and degrading employments, and they tend to exclude the pensioners from social intercourse with all but those of their own monotonous fraternity, thereby aggravating the evils which attend all monastic institutions."

As regards the occupations and amusements of the pensioners, it was stated that to provide a body of men like the Greenwich pensioners with employment that might release them from listlessness and deter them from unworthy pursuits, is one of the most difficult tasks the authorities of the institution have to deal with. Independently of their age and physical disabilities, the inaptitude of such men to ordinary recreations, by reason of their previous habits, is represented to be of itself embarrassing. The long galleries and colonnades of the palatial asylum were insufferably tedious to the pensioners. It might have been imagined that they would derive some amusement and excitement from watching the river navigation of the Thames. But the walks facing the river were reserved as a sort of quarter-deck for the principal officers of the establishment, and the poor pensioners were absolutely excluded from any approach to the Thames within the boundaries of the hospital. Shut out from the more wholesome interests and enjoyments of life, they were not the less exposed to its worst influences. "Idleness and vacuity are not friendly to morality. It is not astonishing that men in such circumstances resort for excitement to the alehouse, or even to scenes for which it is more difficult to apologise. Their material wants satisfied, the asylum of Greenwich Hospital offers its inmates little to cheer the feebleness of age or to vary the monotony of seclusion. A place of resort for smoking, called the Chalk-walk; a library, not very liberally furnished, and little frequented; some facilities for the games of dominoes and draughts; these things, together with their meals and their beds, comprise nearly all their attainable objects of interest; and means of employment (other than what is called 'duty') they have none." The "discipline" of the hospital was regulated by the Admiralty, which prescribed four kinds of punishment:—1. The use of a red cap or collar. 2. The use of a yellow sleeve (condemning the wearer to do the office of scavenger to the hospital). 3. Fines—mults of money or beer. 4. Suspension, discharge, or expulsion from the hospital.

"Yellow Jack" has always been odious to the British seaman, whether as a flag or a tropical disease. The "yellow sleeve," which made the Greenwich pensioner an object of contempt to his companions, was so offensive that many preferred suspension or even discharge. The "yellow-sleeve men" had to muster together, to dine together, to walk last, and sit in a particular part of church, in the presence of all the congregation. "Jack" could not stand it.

A minor grievance at Greenwich was the use of the "cocked hat," an antiquated item of costume, subjecting the wearer to a notice sometimes anything but complimentary. The Commissioners reported generally in favour of a style of dress more conducive to comfort and more acceptable to the pensioners. In several respects these recommendations have been adopted.

Looking at the general result of the evidence respecting the condition of the Greenwich pensioners, it is quite obvious that the Government did well in obtaining an Act, which was passed in 1865 "to provide for the better government of Greenwich Hospital and the more beneficial applications of the revenues thereof." Under this Act, power was given to grant outdoor pensions and allowances, under the designation of "Naval Pensions," to parties entitled to the benefits of the hospital. All inmates of the hospital who chose to avail themselves of these pensions were authorised to do so, but their acceptance was in no degree compulsory. Upwards of 800 inmates elected to leave the hospital on receipt of these money allowances.

The consequence is, that the greater part of this grand establishment is now vacant. The 370 pensioners who remain are, for the most part, sick, crippled, and infirm old men, who have no opportunity of acquiring comfortable homes elsewhere. Greenwich, in fact, is converted into an infirmary for such decrepit and imbecile pensioners as the Admiralty approve. Whilst, however, this change has been made, there has been no corresponding or sufficient change in the composition of the staff, who are still nearly as numerous as ever, and who are receiving incomes for the discharge of duties which they have now no longer to perform."

It was to this point that Mr. Seely, the member for Lincoln, called the attention of the House of Commons at the close of the last Session, and obtained a promise from the First Lord of the Admiralty of immediate attention to the subject. We shall have, in a future article, to look into the question of the present revenues and expenditure of this establishment, with a view to see in what way its ample resources can henceforward be most usefully employed.—*Athenaeum.*

## THE ROMAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY IN IRELAND.

At the meeting of the Archbishops and Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland that took place recently in Dublin a series of important resolutions was adopted having particular reference to—1, The disendowment of the Protestant Church Establishment and the application of its revenues; 2, National Education; 3, The Catholic University; and, 4, On secret societies, and on the means of establishing peace and prosperity in Ireland. Following is the text of the principal resolutions:—

The Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland, seeing that the Government and Parliament are preparing to deal by law with the Irish Protestant Church Establishment, deem it their duty to declare—

1. That the Irish Protestant Church Establishment is maintained chiefly, almost exclusively, by property and revenues unjustly alienated from the rightful owner, the Catholic Church of Ireland; that Irish Catholics cannot cease to feel as a gross injustice and as an abiding insult the continued, even partial, maintenance of that establishment out of that endowment, or in any other way at their expense—an establishment to which, as to their fountain-head, are to be traced the waters of bitterness which poison the relations of life in Ireland, and estrange from one another Protestants and Catholics, who ought to be a united people.

2. That, notwithstanding the right claim of the Catholic Church in Ireland to have restored to it the property and revenue of which it was unjustly deprived, the Irish Catholic Bishops hereby reaffirm the resolutions of the Bishops assembled in the years 1835, 1841, and 1843; and, adhering to the letter and spirit of those resolutions, distinctly declare that they will not accept endowment from the State out of the property and revenues now held by the Protestant Establishment, nor any State endowment whatever.

3. That, in thus declaring their determination to keep the Church of Ireland free and independent of State control or interference, the Bishops of Ireland are happily in accord with instructions received from the Holy See

in the years 1801 and 1805, as well as with the course pursued by the Irish Bishops of that day, in conformity with those instructions.

4. That, the Bishops are confident that the Catholics of Ireland will receive with joy this reputation of a State endowment for the Irish Church, and that they will never cease to give, without any legal compulsion, the support which they hitherto freely and dutifully accorded to their clergy and religious institutions.

5. That, by appropriating the ecclesiastical property of Ireland for the benefit of the poor, the Legislature would realise one of the purposes for which it was originally destined, and to which it was applied in Catholic times.

The assembled Bishops re-affirm the resolutions in reference to education adopted in a general meeting held by the Bishops of Ireland in Dublin, on the 4th and following days of August, 1863.

The resolutions referred to are strongly condemnatory of the principle on which the national system of education is based—namely, the principle of mixed education, in which religion is "unnaturally separated from secular instruction, in which the State would substitute its own power for the authority of the Catholic Church in respect to the education of Catholic youth." The constitution of the model and training schools is condemned as especially dangerous and conflicting with the principles of the Catholic Church.

The Bishops call particular attention to the resolution which declares that the constitution of the model and training schools evidently conflicts with the principles of the Catholic Church, and which enjoins on priests to use their best exertions to withdraw children from them as being specially dangerous. They direct that that resolution be promulgated anew in all parishes from which it may be apprehended that children would go to those schools; and that priests be again instructed that it is their imperative duty to enforce it to the utmost of their power.

The meeting decides that a petition be sent to Parliament praying for such a change in the existing national system of education as may afford to the Catholics of Ireland all the advantages to which they are entitled.

Whilst we warn our flocks against the criminal folly of engaging in secret societies or open insurrection against the Government of the country, we also declare to the Government and Legislature our profound conviction that peace and prosperity will never be permanently established in Ireland till the Protestant Church is totally disendowed, education in all its departments made free, and the fruits of their capital and labour secured to the agricultural classes.

There is no foundation whatever for the report that communications have passed between Lord Stanley and the Papal Government on the subject of a State provision for the Irish Catholic clergy.

IRISHMEN IN ENGLAND.—Some interesting statistics just published show that the Irish element of the English population has increased more rapidly than any other since 1841. In that year Irish-born denizens of England and Wales were 289,404; in 1861 this number had increased to 601,634—a proportional increase four times as great as that of the whole population. The number of Irishmen in the following towns in 1861 was—in London, 40,742; Liverpool, 32,470; Manchester, 18,907; Birmingham, 48,102; Leeds, 40,311; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 28,811; Sheffield, 27,551; Preston, 20,422; Merthyr Tydfil, 20,291; Bradford, 20,111; Sunderland, 19,229; Bolton, 19,101; Plymouth, 18,971; Stockport, 18,924; Bristol, 16,333; Wolverhampton, 15,881; Portsmouth, 13,222; Hull, 11,461; Gateshead, 10,541. The number of Irish in our gaols is, unfortunately, very large. While the rate per thousand of population in gaol was only 0·6 of English-born, it was 3·0 of Irishmen. In other words, five Irishmen get into prison for one Englishman.

## THE KING OF PRUSSIA IN SOUTHERN GERMANY.

It is agreed on all hands that, while the visits of the Emperor of the French to Baron Von Bismarck and the Emperor of Austria had, at all events, no political result, whatever significance was attributed to it, the journey of the King of Prussia to the Suabian provinces has been attended with very considerable enthusiasm even among the Hohenzollern people, who only a few years ago belonged to the anti-Prussian party. The truth is, perhaps, not that they dislike Prussia less, but that they hate France more; and so their loyalty and patriotism were developed under peculiar circumstances, a fact which, if it was expected, and therefore taken advantage of by the astute adviser of the King of Prussia, is another evidence of the completeness of the Bismarck statecraft.

At all events, the Burgomaster of Sigmaringen, when he received the King and Queen, extolled the victories of the Prussian arms "in the unparalleled campaign of 1866," and proclaimed his Majesty the leader of Germany, and the father of fatherland. In reply, the King gratefully acknowledged the patriotism of the burgomaster's fellow-citizens, but refrained from alluding to his prospective position as the head of an entire nation. In his tour through Bavaria, his Majesty arrived at Augsburg a few hours after a great meeting of the Prussian party, and was warmly welcomed at the terminus. Here the King of Bavaria, the only southern Prince who had not met them in the previous stages of their journey, awaited the King and Queen, and dined with them at the station. A few hours later, the royal express train stopped at Nuremberg, where thousands received it with acclamations. On the walls of the castle, the half-way house of the Hohenzollerns on their way to the northern Crown, their banner once again was seen waving side by side with the Bavarian flag. In the Reichschloss, or Imperial Castle, which stands in the north-west corner of the town, towering above all its other houses, the King and Queen took up their abode on their arrival. In the evening the town was illuminated in their honour. The visit which they paid the next day must have had a more peculiar interest, however, for it was to the ancient frowning old fortress of Hohenzollern, the cradle of the race of the family which dates back to Count Thassilo of Zollern who died in 800.

A queer old time-defying frowning structure is this castle of Hohenzollern; a building of the ancient feudal type, and well calculated to command all that Suabian district lying beneath the span of the southern mountains upon which it stands. The family that came from behind those massive walls has carried out its old device, and the Hohenzollern motto, "From the rock to the sea," has now been long verified. This castle is 2620 ft. above the sea level, and is reached by an avenue of poplars leading from the queer little town of Hechingen. It was destroyed in 1423, but was rebuilt in 1454 to 1460 by the Counts of Hohenzollern, the Burgraves of Nuremberg and the Margraves of Brandenburg, all at that time belonging to one or other branch of the great family. During the Thirty Years' War the old battlements were dismantled, and the place underwent all sorts of changes, settling down at last into a mere ruin, in which condition it remained until 1851, when it was ordered to be entirely restored by Frederick William IV., at the instigation of Count Stillfried of Alcartara, whose researches enabled the architect to renew it according to the ancient plan, and who has published an interesting book on the subject of Hohenzollern and its antiquities. To this restoration the representatives of the various branches of the family again contributed, and the great structure is once more completed on the pattern (as far as the exterior is concerned) of the ancient castle of the first Counts of Snabia. Outside, it is an almost impregnable fortress of the Middle Ages; within, it is ornamented in the purest style of Gothic art, and nothing can exceed the care with which all the details have been finished, especially in the Evangelical Chapel and the Grafensaal.

On arriving by the way of the Adler Thor, the visitor goes along, or rather up, a spiral road, at the end of which he enters a tunnel, also constructed on the spiral principle. On debouching from this tunnel he comes in front of the interior gate, which is surmounted by a tower with four turrets; thence he proceeds to the courtyard of the castle by means of a balcony leading to the spot where King Frederick William received the congratulations of the people when he undertook the sovereignty. The spot is marked by a linden-tree. Passing the guard-rooms devoted to the garrison, you arrive before the castle itself—that is to say, the Royal château, at the point where their Majesties entered by the magnificent grand staircase, where Count Stillfried recounted to them a short history of the castle; after which the King embraced his cousin, Prince Antoine of Hohenzollern, and received the keys. The staircase leads to a grand hall, called "The Genealogical," ornamented with statues of the family; thence one arrives at the Grafensaal, which is, in fact, the great dining-room, and is ornamented with a superb ogival roof, decorated with gold arabesques and sustained by two rows of fine marble columns. The library is ornamented with frescoes representing the legends in the history of the castle. The consecration

of the two chapels was celebrated during the Royal visit by the Protestant and Roman Catholic dignitaries; and after breakfast the Royal party mingled with the guests in that familiar manner which has been so often mentioned as belonging peculiarly to the Prussian Court. A review of a regiment of tiny soldiers, consisting of the children of Hechingen followed. This corps, the oldest member of which is only fourteen, went through its exercises with no little precision, and the conqueror of Sadowa was evidently pleased to see his word of command so readily obeyed by the little manikins who might almost have passed for specimens of Nuremberg toys. In the evening the route by which the Royal party had come over the hills was illuminated, and a great company of peasants made a torchlight procession, and sang some of their national songs. Our Engravings represent the reception of their Majesties, and the exterior view of the ancient castle.

In connection with the visit of the King of Prussia and family to the "cradle of their race," it may be interesting to give some account of the members of the Prussian Royal family at the present time. It is scarcely strange that the national power should at present be almost identified with the persons of the Royal family, for each member of that family had some part in the work which contributed to the grand result; and King William I., who only four years ago was spoken of only as a sort of martinet military officer, without either statecraft or personal power, is regarded by his people as a worthy representative of the house of Hohenzollern.

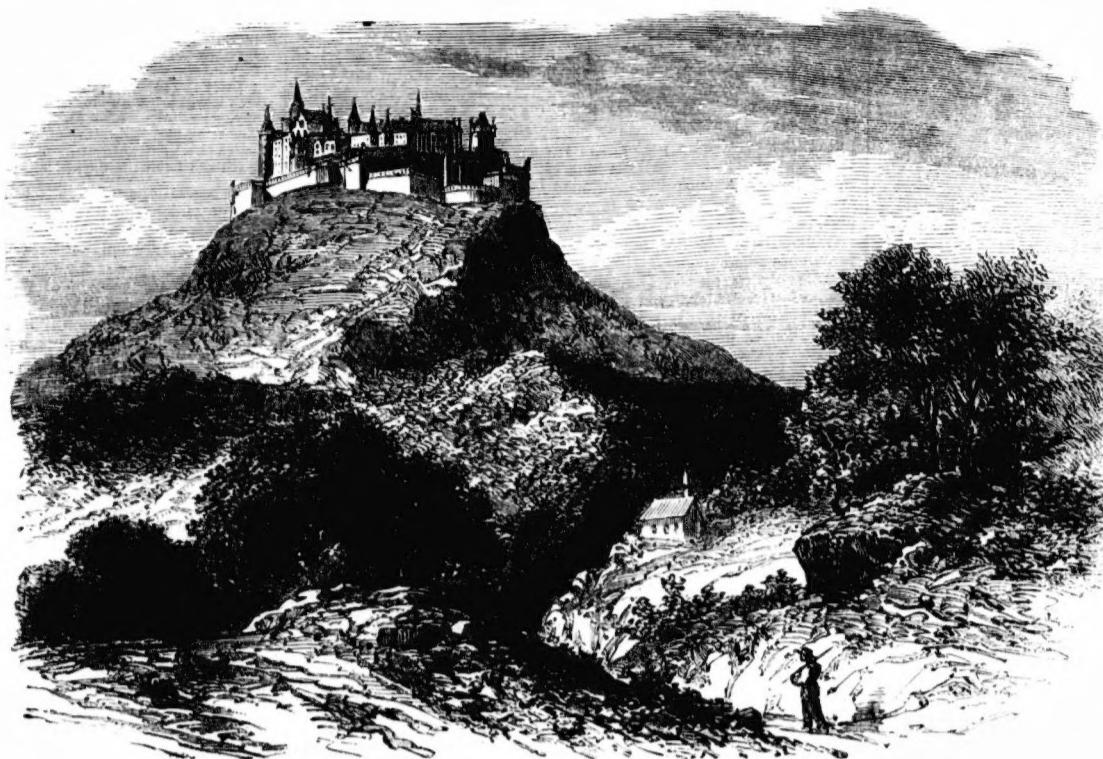
The founder of this house was one of the Generals of Charlemagne; but it was not till 1273 that one of his successors, Frederick III., was elevated to the rank of a Prince of the Holy Roman Empire, along with the Burgrave of Nuremberg. His great grandson, Frederick VI., was invested by Kaiser Sigismund with the province of Brandenburg; and a century after, in 1511, the Teutonic knights elected Margrave Albert, a younger son of the family of Hohenzollern, as Grand Master; and as these knights owned the large province of Prussia on the Baltic, he contrived to declare himself hereditary Prince of that territory, so that on the extinction of his line these possessions came to the Electors of Brandenburg, whose

own territories meanwhile had been vastly enlarged by the "Great Elector," Frederick Wilhelm, under whose fostering care arose the first great standing army in Central Europe. At his death, in 1688, he left in his territory a population of one million and a half, a vast amount of treasure, and 38,000 well-drilled troops to his son Frederick III., who became King in 1701. His successor so well followed the family traditions that he acquired a treasure of a million and a half sterling, bought valuable family domains, so that Frederick the Great came to a State of 47,700 square miles, with two millions and a half of inhabitants, to which was afterwards added Silesia, and that great slice of territory awarded to Prussia on the partition of Poland. These additions made Prussia a kingdom of 74,340 square miles and to nearly six millions of inhabitants. It was a wonderful family for keeping to its original prestige, and so Frederick William II. carried on the work by the acquisition of the principalities of Anspach and

Provinces. In 1858 he became Regent during the mental incapacity of his brother; and ascended the throne, at his brother's death, in 1861.

Maria Louisa Augusta, the Queen of Prussia, and daughter of the late Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, was born in 1811, and married to his present Majesty in 1829. Of this marriage the offspring are Prince Frederick William, the heir-apparent to the Crown, born Oct. 18, 1831, and married Jan. 25, 1858, to our own Princess Royal; and Princess Louise, born Dec. 3, 1838, and married Sept. 20, 1856, to the Grand Duke Frederick of Baden.

Prince Frederick William and Princess Victoria have four children living, two sons and two daughters. Prince Frederick Charles, who played a prominent part both in the Danish War and in the campaign, last year, against Austria, is the nephew of the King and the son of Prince Charles, Commander-in-Chief of the Prussian Artillery.



THE CHATEAU OF HOHENZOLLERN, SOUTH GERMANY.



THE RUSSIAN SECTION IN THE PARIS EXHIBITION: THE CARPET DEPARTMENT.—(SEE PAGE 222.)

Baireuth, while another partition of Poland gave him a still larger piece of that unhappy country, and the kingdom rose to 100,000 square miles and 9,000,000 people. It is true that for a time Frederick William III. lost about half this territory to Napoleon; but the Hohenzollerns were born lucky, and the Congress of Vienna not only restored the loss but added part of the kingdom of Saxony, the Rhineland, and Swedish Pomerania. It was reserved for the present King, however, to make the great coup which should place Prussia on the throne of Germany, and he has certainly succeeded in following the example of his ancestors by increasing the inheritance of his children.

The Royal family of Prussia are King William I., the second son of Frederick William III., and of Princess Louise of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. His Majesty was born March 22, 1797; and, as he was educated for military career, he took part in the campaigns of 1813 and 1815 against France. He was appointed Governor of Pomerania in 1840, and eight years afterwards fled from Prussia to England, where he only stayed a month before he returned to Berlin to take a seat in the Assembly of June 8, 1848. In the following year he commanded the Prussian troops against the revolutionary army of Baden, and was afterwards appointed military Governor of the Rhine



PEASANTS OF SABLES D'OLONNE, LOIRE INFERIOR.



ALSATIANS FROM THE ENVIRONS OF STRASBOURG.



PEOPLE OF MECKLENBURG.



TYPES OF NATIONAL COSTUME AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—(SEE PAGE 254.)

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1867.

## THE LAW OF LANDLORD AND TENANT.

THE state of the law regulating the relations of landlord and tenant in this country amply proves that landlords have had the principal share in making the laws of Great Britain, and that they used their opportunities to secure their own interests. These laws are exceedingly one-sided, unjust, and anomalous. There is no principle of equity in them. They are framed entirely with the view of securing advantages for the dominant order. Some of them can boast a very respectable antiquity—indeed, most of them are reliques of feudal times; but that only proves the proposition we have advanced above, for in feudal times lawmakers were almost exclusively landlords. It is true that the laws made in the interest of the lords of the soil have in course of time come to have a wider application, and now redound to the advantages of the owners of all descriptions of real property—the proprietors of houses as well as the proprietors of land; but this is the result of a liberal interpretation of the law, induced by the growth of a secondary class of landlords who did not exist when the laws were made, and probably were not contemplated as likely ever to exist by the baronial magnates who formed the principal elements in early English Parliaments. The only landlords then were the lords of manors—the "landed men" of the country; and in framing laws they, like the barons who drew up "Magna Charta," used language which primarily meant themselves only, but, being capable of a wider interpretation, ultimately came to signify landlords of all descriptions, just as the word "landlord," originally meaning an owner of land, has come to signify the owner and even the lessee of houses as well. "The people" in the minds of the framers of the Great Charter, meant principally, if not exclusively, the baronial or land-owning class, just as "landlord," in the minds of feudal lawmakers, meant the same order, with, perhaps, the clergy, as they were at that time landlords in a corporate if not in an individual capacity. The words have changed their signification somewhat, but the spirit of the law remains the same.

As one instance of the unjust way in which the law of landlord and tenant operates, take the case detailed in our "Law and Crime" article of last week, and that is only one out of thousands that are constantly occurring, but of which the public never hears a word. A person who may have no means or effects whatever rents a house from the owner, and then lets it out in unfurnished apartments. The furniture of the lodgers may be, and often is, the only goods of value on the premises; and, though they pay their rent regularly, and have vouchers to prove that they have done so, their effects are liable to be seized for arrears due from the lessee of the house to the owner; so that the honest and perfectly solvent lodger may be ruined to make good the defaults of an impecunious and, it may be, fraudulent middleman. In practice, no doubt, the spirit of this iniquitous law is often modified, and lodgers are allowed to remove their goods on proof of having paid their rents; but cases are constantly occurring in which no such kindly action obtains; and assuredly a law under which such hardship and injustice may be perpetrated ought to be at once repealed.

Then, as another specimen, take the law of hypothec, under which rent takes precedence of all other debts. A bankrupt may be indebted to butchers, bakers, tailors, grocers, and other tradesmen who have supplied him with goods as necessary to existence as is a house to live in or a farm to cultivate; and yet their claims are postponed till those of the landlord are satisfied. There are, of course, limitations in respect of time; but, practically, the landlord has the preference—the first pull—and other creditors are left to pick up what scraps may be left after he is contented. Now, on what rule of equity is such a law as this based? Is the debt to the landlord more just in itself than those that may be owing to other tradesmen? Is a house or a farm more essential to existence than food and clothing? And, if not, why should the articles supplied by a landlord receive such exceptional protection, to the detriment of people whose claims are as just as his? Clearly, because landlords have been our lawmakers, and have looked very sharply after their own interests.

Even on points in regard to which no written or even recognised common-law rules apply, the influence of landlordism has been employed to establish usages which have almost, if not altogether, the effect of law. This is pre-eminently the case as regards tenure and improvement of land, and even, to some extent, of houses. It is supposed to be for the advantage of landowners to maintain a controlling power over their tenants; and hence the tenant-at-will system of letting farms that obtains in England and Ireland. Generally speaking, the holding is only from year to year; so

that a landlord can always control his tenants politically, and yet run no great risk pecuniarily—that is, with the help of the law of hypothec, he can make sure of his rent, and, from fear of ejectment, he can generally command his tenants' votes. This, it is true, is a shortsighted and wasteful policy, and is well known to be so; but that does not hinder it from being maintained. The land is neither so well farmed nor so productive as it might be, because the tenant has no guarantee that he will be allowed to reap the fair benefit of any improvements he may effect or of any expenditure in manuring and otherwise which he may incur. The result is smaller produce and lower rents, to the injury at once of the landlord, the tenant, and the general community. But then the first named has a compensation in the shape of influence and power, in which the other two parties not only do not participate, but from which they positively suffer. The disadvantages of the tenant-at-will system is well illustrated by the contrast presented by England and Scotland. In the latter country leases universally prevail, and one result is that, though the soil is naturally poorer and the climate less favourable than those of England, the arable land of the northern division of the island yields better crops and pays higher rents than that of the southern portion. Another result is, and that accounts for the difference of system, that in England the landlords generally control the county elections, whereas in Scotland, as a rule, they do not. The same system obtains as regards houses. The owners of house property, as a rule, are very loth to make improvements or repairs. They trust to the tenant doing the work for the sake of his own comfort. But they take very good care to secure a participation in the benefits accruing. A tenant cannot nail up a shelf or plant a shrub without conferring an advantage upon his landlord, who may either raise the rent or eject the tenant in order to screw enhanced profit out of a successor for what has cost him nothing; for the outgoing tenant must leave all fixtures: he can neither draw a nail nor uproot a plant without the landlord's consent—a thing not likely to be conceded. Here, again, usage, equivalent to law, is altogether in the interest of the landlords, the law-making class.

We might go on to adduce the game laws, the law of trespass, the laws of primogeniture and entail, as further instances of the influence of landlordism on our legal enactments; but enough has been said to prove the proposition with which we started, and to show that a thorough revision of the laws affecting landlords and tenants is urgently needed. And as the new Reform Bill, although nominally passed by the landlords' party, is likely to destroy the preponderating landlord influence that has heretofore controlled legislation, we may hope to see such a revision of the law effected ere long. We have no desire to stir up one class against another, and we daresay it is probable that any other class would, in like circumstances, have acted as the landlords have done; but that only proves that all men should have a share in making the laws that are to govern them, and that no one class in the community should dominate the rest.

**RESIGNATION OF THE DEAN OF EXETER.**—Viscount Midleton, who was appointed Dean of Exeter in 1852, on the elevation of Dr. Ellicott to the bishopric of Gloucester and Bristol, has resigned that appointment in the Church. The Dean was educated at Balliol College, Oxford, where he took a first class in classics in 1820; was Rector of Bath from 1839 to 1854, Chaplain to the Queen from 1847 to 1861, Canon of Wells from 1855 to 1862. He resigns his deanery in consequence of the management of the estates—to which he succeeded on the death of his brother, in 1863—requiring so much time as to prevent him from keeping the statutable residence at Exeter. The deanery, which is stated in "Crockford's Clerical Directory" to be worth £1000 a year, falls to the gift of the Earl of Derby as Prime Minister.

**THE NEW BISHOP OF NATAL.**—It is understood to be definitely arranged that the Rev. W. J. Butler, M.A., Vicar of Wantage, will, on the advice of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Oxford, consent to take the bishopric in the colony of Natal which it is proposed to establish in opposition to Dr. Colenso, not, however, resigning Wantage, from which he will obtain leave of absence. His consecration will consequently be proceeded with as soon as the necessary preliminaries can be arranged. There cannot, of course, be any endowment of the seat at present, and the new Bishop will have to rely upon voluntary contributions towards the support of his novel mission. Mr. Butler was educated at Westminster School, from which, having obtained a scholarship, he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1840.

**MR. DISRAELI'S VISIT TO EDINBURGH.**—Mr. Disraeli is expected to arrive in Scotland on Saturday, the 26th inst., and will during his stay there be the guest of Mr. Dundas, of Arniston, at Arniston House, about eight miles from Edinburgh. Sir William Sirling Maxwell, M.P., is to be chairman at the Conservative banquet on the 29th; and the Earl of Roslyn is to be vice-chairman, with Lord Gartes, Sir James Campbell, Mr. Cumming Bruce, M.P., Mr. Dundas, of Arniston, and Mr. Lawson, of Borthwick Hall, as cronies. The list of stewards includes five persons of ducal rank, three marquises, and about twelve earls, and a host of the lesser nobility, baronets, landed proprietors, local merchants, members of the learned professions, farmers, merchants, &c. The places of the company will, with a few exceptions, be determined by ballot. The freedom of the city of Edinburgh is to be presented to Mr. Disraeli on Wednesday, the 30th inst., at two o'clock, probably in the Music-hall. It is likely, also, that the University of Edinburgh may, as in the case of Lord Palmerston in 1863, take the opportunity of conferring the degree of LL.D. on the distinguished statesman.

**MRS. LINCOLN.**—In an obscure corner of a New York journal we find a scrap of news which is at once a glory and a shame to the United States. The wife of Abraham Lincoln, living on an annual income of £7000 dols., the modest savings of her great husband, finds herself compelled to sell her jewels, valued at £5000 dols., to supplement her otherwise insufficient means. There is a lesson for Europe. The greatest citizen of the United States; the man who held greater sway than is wielded by any living potentate; who raised and directed mighty armadas; who fought the greatest war of modern times, and was the saviour of the noblest institutions devised by human genius and the grandest State raised by the hand of man—the great President who died faithful at his post in the moment of victory, has left his widow and family dependent upon the pitance of a half-pay captain, and tormented by the miseries of decent poverty. It is an honour to the United States to have produced such a man—a patriot as pure and self-sacrificing as those of early Greece and Rome; but it is also the shame of that great land not to have supplemented the slender fortunes of its benefactor's family by substantial tokens of the national gratitude.—*Cork Examiner.*

**A VALUABLE BALL OF COTTON.**—A remarkable trial has just been decided in the Tribunal Civil de la Seine, arising from the following facts:—A certain Mme. Tamisier died in the year 1863 of smallpox, and among her effects a small lot of things, including a ball of thread, was knocked down to a M. Audebert, who a couple of years afterwards gave this ball of thread to a M'de Fricoteau. After some time M'de. Fricoteau, on trying the thread, found it bad, but unwound it and cut open the cushion on which she found it rolled. Inside were twenty bank-notes of 1000f. each. She did not know their value, but a friend of hers obtained gold for one, and she then told M. Audebert of her good fortune. The matter came to the ears of M. Cochon, the representative of Mme. Tamisier, who sought to treat the affair as a robbery. In this respect he failed, but 17,000f. were lodged in court, and he then proceeded by a civil action to recover the sum of which they had spent. After a long trial, in which the advocates for the finders of the money argued ably for them, they were cast, and ordered to return the 3000f. and to pay the costs.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY will leave Balmoral either on the 1st or 4th proximo for Windsor Castle. The precise day is not yet fixed.

THE QUEEN has presented £100 towards the restoration of St. Machar Cathedral, Aberdeen, one of the most interesting religious edifices in Scotland.

HER MAJESTY has written to Lord Derby suggesting that a fitting provision should be made for the widow of Professor Faraday. Nothing has yet been done in the way of fixing the sum to be secured to the bereaved lady; but our readers may be sure it will be such as England should propose to the relief of her foremost man of science.

PRINCE ARTHUR is suffering from a modified attack of smallpox at the Ranger's House, Greenwich. The Prince is under the care of Dr. Carr, of Blackheath, and, in the absence of Dr. Jenner, who is with the Queen in Scotland, Drs. Sieveking and Munk have been consulted. It is believed that the Prince, who is progressing most favourably, contracted the disease in the Highlands.

THE COLOSSAL STATUE OF THE PRINCE CONSORT by Theed was uncovered at Balmoral on Tuesday. The Queen and other members of the Royal family were present. All passed pleasantly, although there was heavy rain.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS DE CHARTRES was safely delivered of a Prince, at half-past five o'clock on Wednesday morning, at Morgan House, Ham.

THE RIGHT HON. JOSEPH NAPIER has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dublin, in place of the late Right Hon. F. Blackburne.

MR. JUSTICE BLACKBURN and Mr. Justice Mellor are the Judges who have been selected to try the Fenian prisoners at the special Assizes at Manchester.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER has presented a public park to the city of Chester. This splendid gift was handed over without pomp, ceremony, or parade to the Chester City Council the other day.

MR. JOHN OXFORD has just returned from America quite restored in health.

THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT is enlisting Polish refugees for service in Bulgaria.

AN EXPLOSION has occurred in a mine at St. Etienne, France, by which no less than twenty-four persons seem to have been killed.

MISS BURDETT COUTTS has forwarded an additional contribution of £50 to the National Life-boat Institution. William Botly, Esq., F.S.A., of Upper Norwood, has also sent the society a contribution of 100 gs.

MR. E. MIAUL has been defeated at Bradford. The official declaration of the poll shows the numbers who voted for each candidate to stand thus:—Thompson, 2210; Miall, 1807. Majority for Thompson, 403.

EARL ANNESLEY has been chosen by a majority of votes to sit in the House of Lords as Irish representative peer, in the room of the late Lord Mayo.

MISS AVONIA JONES, the tragic actress, died on the 4th inst. at New York, and her remains were to be taken to Boston for interment in Mount Auburn.

THE SEAT OF MR. AYRTON, in the Tower Hamlets, is to be contested. Two new candidates for the representation of the borough offer themselves, in the persons of Mr. Edmund Beales, president of the Reform League, and Colonel Chambers. Another candidate also offers himself—namely, Mr. Samuda, now M.P. for Tavistock.

THE SECRETARY OF THE SUN FIRE INSURANCE OFFICE stated to the Commons' Select Committee of last Session on fires that he considers that carelessness in using lucifer matches causes to that office a loss of £10,000 a year.

A FAREWELL DINNER will be given to Mr. Charles Dickens, at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, Nov. 2, the object of it being to afford an opportunity, before his departure to America on the 9th prox., to express in a signal and public manner the admiration with which himself personally, his genius, his works, and his career have long since come to be regarded by all classes of his fellow-countrymen.

A CLERGYMAN one Sunday, at the close of his sermon, gave notice to the congregation that in the course of the week he expected to go on a mission to the heathen. One of his parishioners exclaimed, "Why, my dear sir, you have never told us one word of this before. What shall we do?" "Oh! brother," said the minister, "I don't intend to go out of town."

MR. T. W. ROBERTSON received, a few days ago, from Baltimore, the payment of fees to a considerable amount for the performance of his comedy, "Caste," in that city. Such a spontaneous acknowledgment of an author's claims, which could not be enforced in the present state of international copyright, deserves to be recorded.

THE IRISH RAILWAY COMMISSION will be constituted as follows:—Sir Alexander Young Spearman, Bart.; John Fowler, Esq., C.E.; John Mulholland, Esq.; Seymour Clarke, Esq.; and Christopher Johnstone, Esq. W. Neilson Hancock, Esq., LL.D., will act as secretary. The first meeting will be held on Monday, the 21st inst., in the rooms of the commission, in Victoria-street.

A PART OF THE CHURCH OF SANTA CROCE, at Padula, province of Salerno, in Italy, has fallen to the ground, burying eleven persons in the ruins. Seven were got out alive, one was dead, and the three others had not yet been found.

THE FOLLOWING ADVERTISEMENT appeared in the *New York Herald* lately:—"To Piano-forte-makers.—A lady keeping a first-class school, requiring a good piano, is desirous of receiving a daughter of the above in exchange for the same."

IN MINNESOTA, recently, two men were kept all night flat on their backs and motionless, feigning death, by a ferocious animal which they supposed to be a bear, but which the morning light showed to be a Newfoundland dog.

A MAN AT ANTWERP had hired a number of workmen on the faith of an engagement taken with a carriage proprietor, and had thus incurred an obligation of about £6. Not being able to get the money to pay the men, and being pressed, he went home and committed suicide.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL of Victoria has rejected the Approbation Act, containing a grant to Lady Darling of £20,000, and the Ministry had consequently resigned. The Governor called in advice, and matters were in an unsettled state. In the meantime all Government payments were stopped. A member of the Legislature has been found guilty of forgery and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment.

A GIRL, four years of age, living in Philadelphia, recently called two women "old maids." Thereupon these charming damsels rolled cakes and peaches in strychnine, and threw them into a garden, desiring that the little child might eat of them. Fortunately, the trick was not wholly successful. The would-be poisoners are in prison, awaiting trial.

A STRANGE CARGO arrived at Liverpool from Hamburg a few days ago. It consisted of the largest elephant in Europe, weighing ten tons; two fine dromedaries, a gorilla, a cub lion, and other zoological specimens. The whole lot was valued at £7000. The corporation of Liverpool are likely to become the purchasers for the zoological section of the new Sefton Park.

JULIE S., a young woman of nineteen, of remarkable personal attractions, has just drowned herself at Champigny (Maine-et-Loire). She left a letter for a young man who was paying his addresses to her, saying that she was much attached to him, but that, being subject to epileptic fits, she could not marry him, and therefore she preferred death.

AN INTERMENT thirty years after death has just taken place in Berlin. The deceased was the celebrated beauty Rachel Levin, wife of the late Baron de Warnhegen. Fearing to be buried alive, she had ordered in her will that her coffin should have a glass plate in the top, and that it should be constantly watched for a month, and deposited in a particular vestibule for thirty years; all which was scrupulously carried out.

A CASE OF ASSAULT came before the Liverpool magistrates on Monday in which two material witnesses refused to be sworn, on the ground that they were each enceinte, and that it was unlucky and wrong to take an oath while in that condition. The magistrates on this dismissed the summons, rebuking the women for their gross ignorance and superstition.

A SHREWD VILLAIN IN NASHUA, N. H., lately walked deliberately up to a store window and broke a pane of French glass, and when asked to pay for it as deliberately drew out a 100-dols. bill, which the storekeeper took, giving him 70 dols. in change. The bill proved to be a counterfeit.

MR. ANTHONY TROLLOPE, it is said, intends to resign his duties in the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, and contemplates offering himself as a candidate for a seat in Parliament to one of the new constituencies to be formed under the Reform Bill. Mr. Trollope's politics are decidedly Liberal.

A HOTEL-KEEPER at Lancaster, Pa., recently learned something in this wise:—Two countrymen took lodgings at his place, and dined sumptuously, drinking three bottles of wine daily. The last day, and before they had settled their bill, a dispute arose about the speed of their horses. They at last settled upon a race, and appointed the landlord judge. When they were ready, the judge, like those of the Olympian games, gave the word—one, two, three, and go. Away they went, and have neither been seen nor heard of since.

THE LATE LORD HERBERT.—The total cost of the public memorial raised to Lord Herbert has been rather over £8000—namely, £8488 17s. 1d. for the Convalescent Seaside Home, just opened at Bournemouth; £2021 18s. 10d. for the statue of "Sidney Herbert," by Baron Marochetti, erected in the market-place, at Salisbury, and the remainder for printing and incidental expenses. The subscriptions falling short of the expenditure, the deficiency (nearly £2000) has liberally been made up by the chairman of the Memorial Committee, the Right Hon. T. Sotheron-Escourt.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

I AM again at home in my old snugger, after a pleasant lounge in North Wales of seven weeks, during which I was confined in doors by foul weather only two entire days. And here let me note, for the benefit of tourists in mountain districts, that August and September are, as a rule, incomparably the finest months of the year. During the last ten years I have been in the Lake district, or in North Wales, altogether over forty weeks, and have always had good weather. But no more of this. The echoes from the political world came to me but faintly when I was away, and in truth received but little of my attention, as your readers may imagine. I saw in the papers an announcement that Parliament would meet in November, but gave little heed to the story, as a like rumour generally finds its way into the papers at this time of year. There has been no winter Session since 1854, the year when war with Russia was declared. Parliament met in that year on Dec. 12 to provide for the embodying of the militia; but every year since a rumour has got abroad that Parliament would meet before the usual time. I, then, took little notice of this report, I was further disinclined to believe the report by what I heard from a member of Parliament who crossed my path and told me that he had only a day or two before seen four Ministers of the Crown, who one and all said that there was no authority for the statement; and then, again, I saw no sufficient reason why Parliament should meet. The alleged reason—viz., to grant supplies—was not sufficient. It is to meet, I believe though, after all, and notwithstanding the authority to the contrary of those four Ministers of the Crown. True, no official orders have been given in any quarter that I can learn. But I decide from this fact: the note of preparation has been sounded at Westminster Palace, and all hands have been mustered there to get ready; from which I gather that, though no formal official orders have been given, certain informal notices that probably the two Houses will be needed have been received. And, lastly, I hear that the permanent Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Hamilton, says that Parliament must and will meet. So I suppose that we may consider that matter as settled. "Why are you going to meet?" said I to an honourable and gallant member from Ireland, whom I met at Chester. "The deuce knows," he replied. "Money is not the object; the Government could get enough of that to carry on till February, and then a vote on account could be taken." "But there is a law, is there not, that the Indian army cannot be moved without the consent of Parliament?" "Fiddlesticks! It has already been moved, and an Act of Indemnity would be just as good in February as in November. I suspect that this may be the cause: The Ministers don't like the responsibility of this war, and they want to shift it as soon as possible off their shoulders, and before news of disaster can reach us; for, mind you, it is a difficult business, and disasters may happen at first, though we shall succeed in the end." "Yes," I replied; "and then, you know, Disraeli is a great stickler for constitutional forms, and always professes great deference to the House of Commons." "So he does; and he is governing with a minority, and has rather a ticklish game to play."

The report that the Earl of Derby means to resign is again floating about the clubs; but I don't believe a word of it. That he would like to get rid of the cares of office, one can well believe. A newspaper which noticed this report coupled labour with cares; but, in reality, his Lordship has but little labour. Just as much as he likes to make, I fancy, and no more. He is First Lord of the Treasury, and Premier, or head of her Majesty's Government. As First Lord of the Treasury he need not have much to do. Before the accession of the House of Hanover the Treasury was administered by a Lord High Treasurer, who was also the head of the Court of Exchequer, and must have had a good deal of work to do; but since that epoch the functions of the Treasury have been discharged "by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury" and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, of course, takes the greatest share of the work. Indeed, I do not imagine that the Lords of the Treasury, when Parliament is not sitting, are hard worked. As Premier, Lord Derby disposes of the higher class of patronage, and is supreme adviser of the Crown and controller of the policy of the country. These duties of course involve anxiety, but not what one would call hard work. Besides, the Earl of Derby would hardly like to forsake the Government just now. His name has been a tower of strength to it. But, notwithstanding, its position is not based on a very sound foundation; and without him its danger would be increased. Further, who is to succeed him? Some say Lord Stanley; but Lord Stanley cannot be Premier and remain in the House of Commons, for a Prime Minister in the House must be *ex necessitate* leader of the House; and depend upon it that Disraeli, as long as he is in the House and in the Government, will lead the House. But Lord Stanley, it is said, might go to the Lords. True, he might if he could be spared from the Commons; but the Government is very weak in debating power in the Lower House. And, further, who on earth could be found to represent the foreign policy there if Stanley were to leave? No, I do not believe there will be any voluntary change at present. A Government in a minority will, we may be sure, avoid as much as possible all change.

Lord Amberley—Earl Russell's son—I noticed whilst I was away has gone to the United States. Fifty years ago, or more, the father did, according to the custom of those days, the grand tour of Europe; that was no easy performance then, and a voyage across the Atlantic was never dreamt of by men of Lord John's rank. There were no steamers then, nor clipper ships; the passage must have been made in a merchant's ship, and it was anything but pleasant to be stowed away in a greasy skipper's vessel for a month or six weeks. Besides, it was not thought then that there was anything in America that an Englishman could learn likely to be useful. How changed we are since those days! The very name of grand tour has passed away; city clerks, and even artisans, do it every summer, whilst merchants cross the Atlantic four or five times a year, and scions of noble houses think the great Republic worthy of their study on the spot. And they are right; they cannot do a better thing. A man who has seen a country is, *ceteris paribus*, always a better authority than he who has only read about it. There was once a debate in the House on the Suez Canal, and much confused talk there was about the levels, possibilities of success, &c.—debate, as a matter of course, to very little purpose, as none of the debaters knew much about the matter. At last Robert Stephenson rose, and, beginning in this way, "I have walked over the whole distance twice, and myself have taken the levels," he arrested the attention of the House and closed the debate. Again, after members had been for hours one night debating about the practicability of making a certain tribe of people in Sierra Leone good soldiers with no result—some averring that they would make soldiers, others asserting that they were fitter for sailors, whilst a third party doubted whether they were good for anything—General Thompson rose and said, "I was several years Governor of Sierra Leone and tried to form a regiment of those men; but, first, I could never get them to march in line; and when ordered to fire they would rush out of the ranks, put their muskets to their shoulders, fire (turning their eyes over their shoulders the while), drop their guns, and run away." The question, of course, was at once and for ever settled. It is this going to see that gives Gladstone much of his power in debate. He does not content himself with books when he wants to understand a trade or manufacture, but goes to see it, and learns all about it on the spot. Curiously enough, I was nigh catching him at this work a few weeks ago. When I was at Liverpool, I went over Compton House, the vast establishment belonging to Mr. Jeffries, the Napoleon of tradesmen; and I discovered that the day before Gladstone had been to see it and to study the organisation of this huge business, and that he had taken notes of all he saw and heard.

And now a word or two about the working man in Parliament, a subject which has lately been discussed. Some are of opinion that the artisan will find himself ill at ease there, and be able to command no attention, or respect; his uncultured manners, his provincial speech, his blunderings in grammar, &c., will tell against him. Now, all this is mere nonsense. As regards manners, I would undertake to find in a day as many artisans as will ever be likely to enter the Parliament, who, after a month's observation in the House, should be able, though hitherto all unused to polite society, to meet with self-

possession and really courteous demeanour the greatest man in the House. They will never emulate nor catch the peculiar manner of the highest class; but that is, to a great extent, mere varnish, and not at all necessary to the gentleman. Frank, calm self-possession and courtesy are all that are required; and these are, if not already possessed, easily attainable. And here let me notice that, though we have not artisans in the House, we have not a few who were once working men. I could point you out three who have long been members who once wore wooden clogs; and not long since we had a member who, in his younger days, wheeled a barrow as a navvy. And then as to language: mere provincial speech will be no hindrance—we have plenty of that. Dropping his is a vice of several able and useful men. By-the-way, it is not a vice of northern working men; there are thousands of working men to be found who can talk good English—real, racy English—far better than that of half the members. But they will necessarily be paid! Well, what of that?—every Junior Lord is paid to vote for the Government, and for little else. Will the *free* working men—*free* to speak and vote—be in a more degraded position than said junior lords?

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.  
THE MAGAZINES.

The *British Quarterly* will, I hope, excuse a very brief notice on this occasion. But it is sufficient praise that it contains, in "Personal Recollections of Thomas Hood," by far the most interesting article that has ever appeared about that man, the beauty of whose life moves me, and no doubt many others, far more than the beauty of his writings, close as they come to us in our best moments. It was a most useful service to the memory of Hood to account, as this writer does, for the apparent asperity of certain of his writings, such as the "Ode to Isaac Wilson." The writer of these lines, for one, is very glad to learn how great was the provocation Hood was in the habit of receiving. It is to be hoped that the article will be widely read, and that many besides myself will also be disabused. This article most truly says that the humour of Hood's woodcuts was sometimes superior even to that of his poetry. What has become of them? Is a Hood table-book, something like a John Leech table-book, impossible? To this writer's reference to Hood's beautiful handwriting, I may add the remark that a fine, incorruptible hand is usual in literary men who are also artists—Hood, Thackeray, and Mr. Sala are instances in point.

The *Popular Science Review* has greatly improved of late. Dr. Masters, in the article entitled "Why the Leaves Fall;" Mr. Robert Hunt, in "A Message from the Stars;" and Dr. Richardson, on the "Physics of the Brain," deserve careful attention—the last article, with some additions, would make a very readable manual of the subject, but seems to be a little too confidently written in some of the ticklish places. The reviews of books in this periodical are always particularly fair.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

At the ADELPHI a comic drama, with the clumsy title "Man is not Perfect, nor Women Neither" was produced on Monday last. The piece is taken without material alteration from "L'Homme n'est pas Parfait," a fact which the author, in the hurry of the moment, has forgotten to acknowledge. It is really time that this infamous practice of stealing plays wholesale from French authors without acknowledgment were abandoned. It is certainly true enough that when an English farce is simply described in the bills as "new"—and not as "new and original"—critics and others who are intimately acquainted with the art of interpreting play-bill announcements are well aware that the piece is a translation from the French; but the bulk of the public know nothing whatever of this, they simply see that a "new piece by So-and-So" is to be played, and they instantly give So-and-So full credit for the ingenuity the original author has displayed in concocting plot, characters, and situations. It is not easy to see why dramatic "authors" draw this nice distinction between "new" and "original." If they intend to deceive their audiences, why stick at the word "original"? Why not, in short, tell a good round fib while they are about it, and describe it as their own handiwork in every particular? If they have no intention to deceive, why not frankly admit their obligations to their French originals? It is simply a disgraceful trick, and one which is calculated to reduce dramatic authors to the level of mere adulterating tradesmen. The piece in question is clumsily translated; it is translated with about as much spirit and "go" as a schoolboy would infuse into an English version of one of Molière's comedies. Mr. Belmore has a good part as a drunken, faithless husband, who is brought by his wife to a sense of the impropriety of his behaviour. By affecting a parallel line of conduct, she causes him, in a fit of jealousy, to evince a love for her the existence of which neither he nor she suspected. His eyes are opened to the faithlessness of his pothouse chum, and he is generally made to acknowledge the hollow vanity of pretty barmaids, public-houses, and Cremorne Gardens. The part is artistically played by Mr. Belmore. Mrs. Mellon has an exceedingly difficult part to play as the wife. She has to do what I have never before seen done upon the stage in England by a woman—she has to get roaring drunk—or, at all events, to seem to do so; whether the drunkenness is supposed to be real or assumed is not quite clearly made out, but the second half of the title of the piece, taken in conjunction with the fact that she certainly tosses off half a dozen glasses of champagne in sight of the audience, incline me to the belief that the drunkenness is supposed to be real. Probably Mrs. Mellon can get drunk on the stage with greater propriety than any other actress; but I am pained to admit that it was not a pleasant sight to see this admirable artiste staggering about the stage, screaming and yelling at the top of her voice, smashing furniture, and raving about the delights of the Argyll Rooms. Mr. Stevenson played the part of a drunken merrydevil with much sly humour and droll uncouth, and Mr. Taylor as a comic pastry-cook, and Miss Pitt as a pretty dressmaker, played two very bad parts respectably.

At the HAYMARKET, a comedietta—honestly announced as "adapted from the French"—was produced on Monday. It is called "The Winning Card" and deals principally with the perplexities that surround Mr. Compton, who, being a gardener, is mistaken by the Governor of a small German town for a King's aide-de-camp charged with an all-important secret mission. The piece is not very neatly adapted; but it is something to see its source acknowledged. The situations are amusing (but not particularly new), and the *sangfroid* with which Mr. Compton accepts the responsibilities of his new and more dignified station caused considerable laughter. The little piece is very liberally mounted, and may be said to have been successful.

A new low comedian, Mr. J. S. Clarke, made his appearance on Wednesday last at the ST. JAMES'S, in "an original comedy by Stirling Coyne," altered from his play of "Everybody's Friend," and called on this occasion "A Widow Hunt." As far as I can recall the incidents and dialogue of "Everybody's Friend," the only material alteration that the piece has undergone is in its title. The part of Major Wellington de Boots has, I understand, been made somewhat more prominent than it was when the piece was first played; but I certainly should not have known it. Why Mr. Coyne thought fit to change the name of his piece on the strength of this simple alteration is to me incomprehensible. Mr. Clarke has a good stage face, which is capable of much humorous expression; but his acting is forced and unnatural. He has a good conception of the part, but he overloads it with gesture and grimace. The part is, in itself, a violent caricature, and Mr. Clarke caricatures the caricature in a manner which would be an exaggeration in a pantomime. It must be admitted that he evidently has much natural humour; but he does not seem to know either how to husband it or how to make the most of it. His performance was not far short of being very good; if he will tone himself down and bear in mind that there is a point at which humorous exaggeration becomes mere buffoonery, he may reasonably expect to take a firm hold on the tastes of a St. James's audience. Miss Burton played the Widow Swindown with all the animation which the part demanded, and Mr. Irvine impressed the audience most favourably as Felix Featherlay. Miss Cavendish as

Mrs. Featherly was ladylike—she would have been more so if she had spoken with less affectation—and Mrs. Larkin played Mrs. De Boots in a manner which reminded me of Mrs. Keeley. Of the other performers I have no occasion to speak.

The infinitesimal and inexhaustible John Parry has added another to his brilliant list of successes. "Merry-making," the title of Mr. Parry's little afterpiece to the "Dream of Venice," at the GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, is characterised by all the exquisite delicacy and irresistible fun that first made celebrated his description of the sayings and doings at Mrs. Roseleaf's. In the present instance he goes to stop at Colonel Roseleaf's, and takes part in a birthday merrymaking in the park that surrounds that gallant gentleman's mansion. His descriptions of a conventional quadrille (in which he somehow dances as all the partners at once), a quartet (in which he sings all four parts at once), a conjuror's performance, and a display of fireworks, are marvellously vivid reproductions of these incidents. Mr. Parry's little afterpieces are gems of polished humour. They are entirely unique, and cannot be too highly appreciated.

## PARIS COSSIP.

The Emperor, with his wife and son, arrived from Biarritz early on Wednesday morning, and a great many people regard his advent to Paris as that of a *Deus ex machina* who is to untie the perplexing knot. What has the Emperor to face? Setting aside the opinions—which in reality are no opinions at all—of the passionate, the merely selfishly interested, and the knaves—who, taken together, form a rather considerable portion of humanity—what is said and felt is, that Napoleon, in his well-meaning desire to save French society and re-establish the Bonaparte dynasty, has brought rather more difficulties upon his shoulders than you or I, or any other sensible person, would like to encounter.

Just imagining what waits him on returning from his holidays, where, indeed, he could not escape being bothered by Rouher and Nigra and others. He has got these few rather tough nuts to crack: First of all, what is he to do with respect to Rome? If he can reconcile the aspirations of the Italians with the claims of the Pope, and satisfy both the Voltaireans and the Catholics of France, he is a clever fellow than even the *coup-d'état* showed him to be. But this is only one "question." There is Germany, with the grim Bismarck as its representative, who sends insolent messages to the Tuilleries because he thinks himself the stronger. The enormous Mexican blunder Napoleon is far from being yet done with; because he has still the Mexican bondholders to satisfy and nothing to satisfy them with; because, in spite of the Exhibition, the year's revenue is nearly two millions sterling short of the estimate. Very well, I hope you are looking out for squalls in the Turkish quarter. Austria is helpless, and France nearly so; and, with the usual generous feeling they have shown, Russia and Prussia are bringing their joint weight on Constantinople. As Earl Russell once said of England M. Rouher might say of France—she has interests in that quarter. The financial difficulty here at home is no slight one. Bread is rising; credit companies are failing; a short time of freedom to the press is followed up by extraordinary severity for faults of small gravity; and there is a loud and not unjust protest from political men against that personal Government which has led France into such a mess, such a humiliating position.

"What do you think of all this?" I asked to-day. "Why," replied my friend, "if the Emperor have any nose, he'll send for Disraeli and make him Minister of State, in order to take France out of the quagmire and put her all right again." Your "Asian Mystery" is an old friend of the French one, and why not lend a helping hand? If he couldn't exactly do his grand "bottle trick," he might succeed in doing something.

This is the place to tell you of a good joke, which, however, has cost its *spiritus* author his place in the meantime. The other morning a great crush of people was observed at one of the brokers' rooms at the Bourse. The police got curious, and cleared out the office. What was it all about? On one of the window-panes was a sketch artistically drawn. Blondin, a remarkable likeness to the French Potentate, was on a high rope, a long rod, as usual, in his hand. At one end of this a diminutive figure with the features of Bismarck; at the other the red shirt, narrow forehead, and hollow eyes of Garibaldi; Blondin trying to balance his pole half in effort, half in trepidation; on the ground below, a female figure—whose? No, I won't tell you—looking up with a painful expression of anxiety, exclaiming, "Oh! I'm sure he'll fall." Voilà! The artist, a youth in the office, was dismissed, of course. He will probably get a lucrative engagement on *Charivari*.

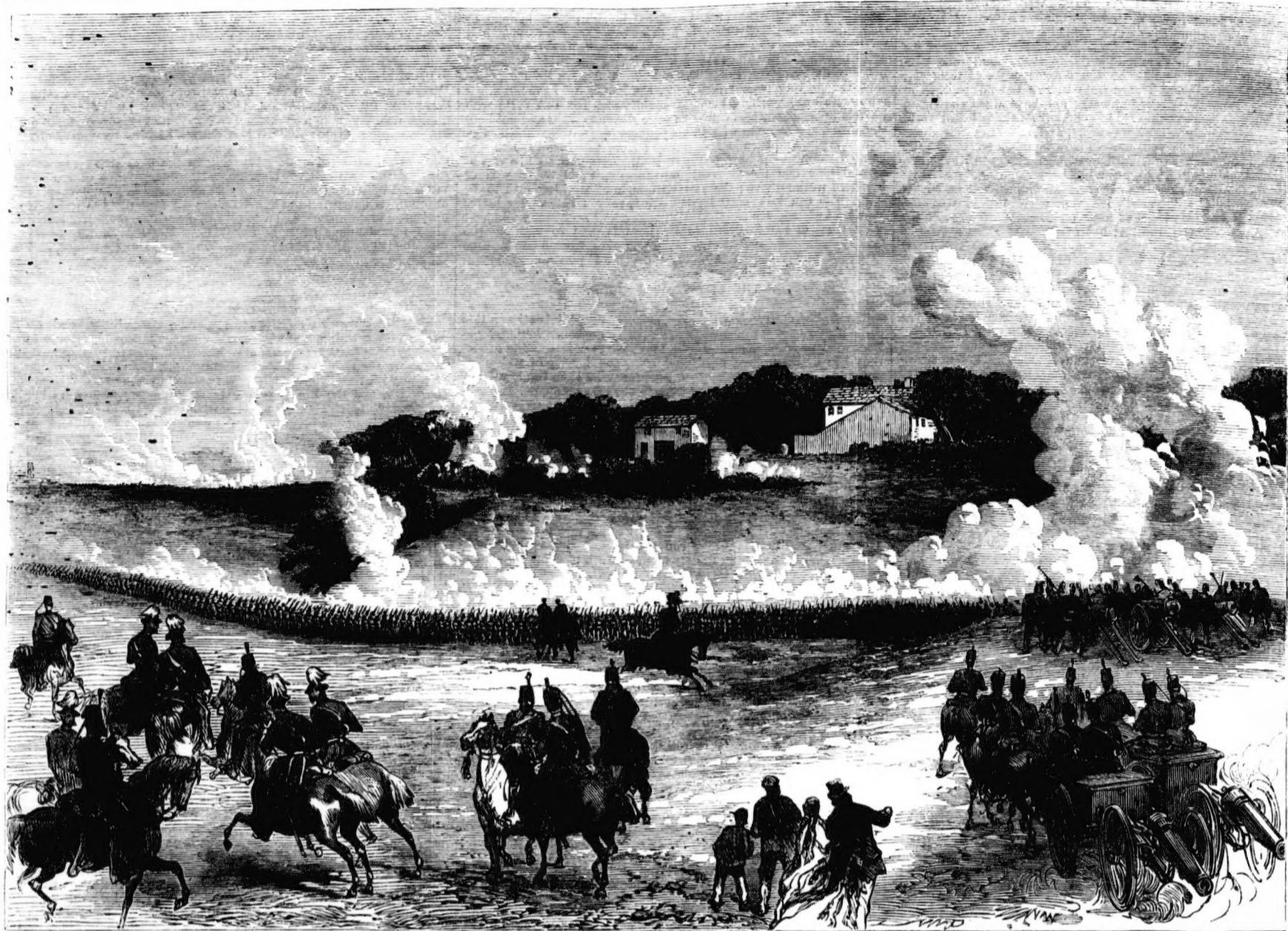
Few people expect peace to continue, but the odds against France may make her pause. However, the artillery, I know from a private source, is on a war footing; there are more troops in the north-eastern departments than there have been for some years past; and the small arm factories at home, and some abroad, are turning out Chassepots at a premium for quick delivery. We hear, too, that the Emperor worked not only with his secretary at Biarritz, but also with his aide-de-camp; and a fleet of armour-clad and transports is in readiness at Toulon. Another significant fact I may mention: a decree in the *Monde* reduces the minimum height for the French cavalry to 1 metre 71 centimetres, and for the infantry to 1 metre 69 centimetres; the reason assigned is to encourage enlistments.

Here is an exemplar for your Ritualists and intoners! M. Isidore is Grand Rabbi of the Jewish Consistory of France, and I admire the wisdom or fortune that has placed him there. He has sent a circular to all the pastors of his Church in which he says that if dogma be inviolable, it is not the same with worship. "Would it not be useful to curtail the exorbitant length of some offices and cut out superfluous details and unintelligible passages?" And what is the use of those indefinitely prolonging chants and those continual insignificant repetitions of Misericordias and Haskaboths, which distract the mind from pious thought? Are they not all obstacles to true piety?" Weighty questions, not only for Jews, but for many Christians.

Paris continues to amuse itself—tristlement though, as old Froissard said you English do. Everybody is sorry to hear that the closing of the Exhibition is postponed for a fortnight. The hunting dies hard; but as the crumbs are thrown to Lazarus, so is the last week of the melancholy show to be given gratis to the prole aires, who, unlike their prototype, didn't ask for it. What they want is bread.

**AN INTERNATIONAL PRIZE.**—The National Life-boat Institute has decided to present the fine life-boat, 33 ft. long, its transporting-carriage, and full equipment of stores, which have been exhibited since May last at the International Industrial Exhibition at Paris, to the French Life-boat and Lite-boat Society. It is probable the life-boat will be stationed at Calais, a city which, besides being visited by many French and English vessels, is also one of the great ports of intercommunication between the two countries. It may be added that the Empress Eugénie is the patron of the French Life-boat Society, and it is but a few days since that the British public were startled by the intelligence that the Empress and the Prince Imperial had unfortunately nearly lost their lives by drowning on the coast of France. The pilot in charge of the yacht's boat unhappily perished in his noble and successful attempt to save the life of the Empress and the Prince on the occasion.

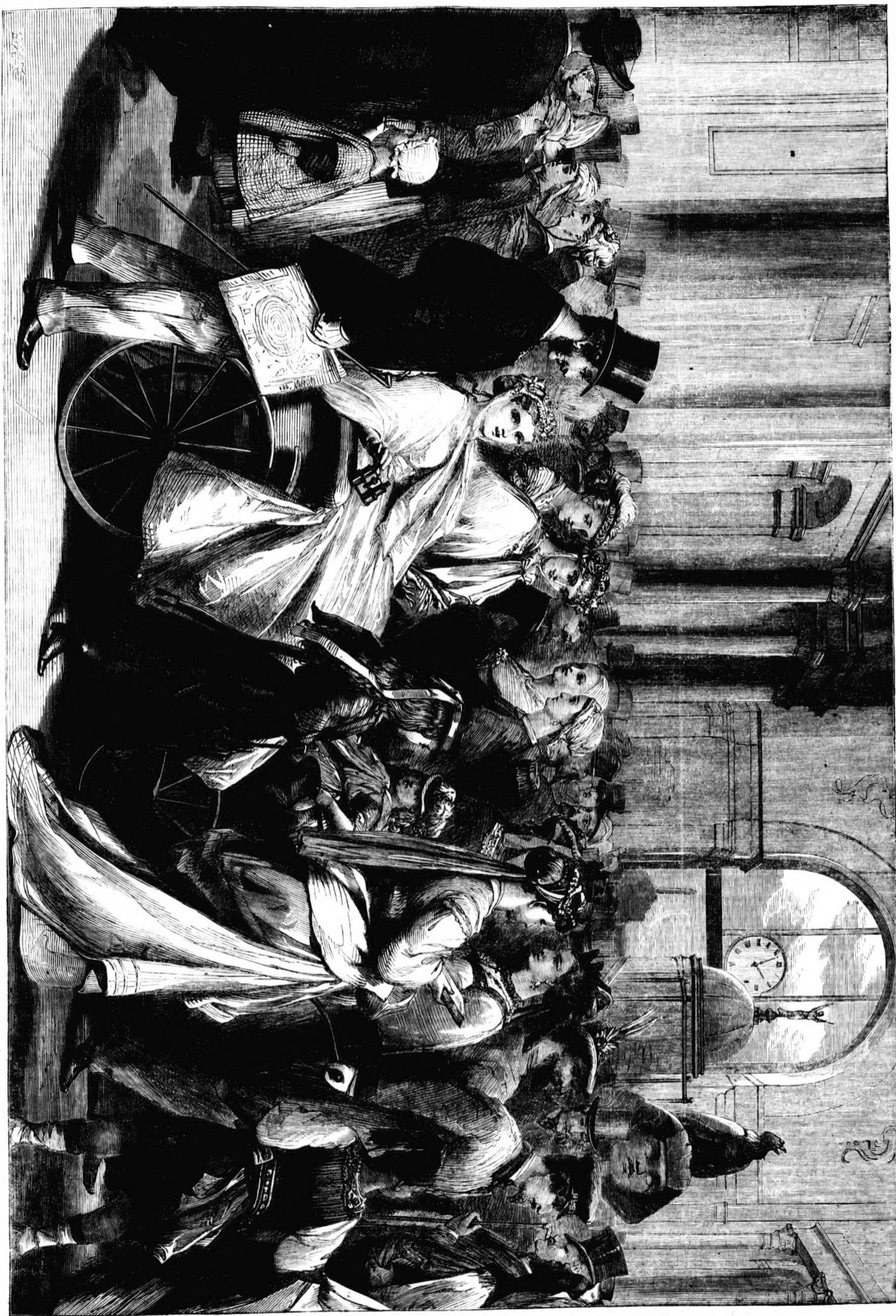
**NEW LIFE-PRESERVING DRESS.**—On Tuesday afternoon some experiments were made at the Wellington Dock, Liverpool, in the presence of a large number of spectators, with a pneumatic apparatus for the preservation of life, invented and patented by Mr. John Rees, of Machynlleth. The apparatus consists of an air and water proof dress, of coat, trousers, and a pair of goloshes fastened together. This dress the inventor pulled over his ordinary clothes, and then commenced filling the eleven different compartments with air. Having done this, he went into the water, affixed a pair of paddles to his breast, and then paddled about the dock for a considerable time, eating and smoking. He afterwards put on a helmet of the same waterproof materials as the rest of the dress, and turned a number of somersaults in the water. In this pneumatic apparatus, which appears to have only one fault, that of taking too long a time to fill it with air, the inventor has provided compartments for the stowage of several days' provisions, as well as other necessities, so that a shipwrecked person can carry the means wherewith to support life. The inventor also applies his apparatus to ships and boats in order to keep them from sinking when heavily freighted, and when having sprung a leak.



THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW IN SEFTON PARK, LIVERPOOL: ATTACK ON GREENBANK FARM-HOUSE.



GREAT FIRE AT HEWITT'S TANNERY, EDINBURGH, AS SEEN FROM PRINCES-STREET.



AN ENGLISH FAMILY AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

### THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW AT LIVERPOOL.

VOLUNTEER reviews have long been popular and successful in Liverpool, and those which took place in Knowsley Park and on Aintree racecourse were two of the most thoroughly satisfactory displays of the kind ever witnessed in connection with the volunteers of the present generation; and, what is especially worthy of mention, the Liverpool volunteer fêtes have always been especially favoured by the weather. This year it was originally intended to have had a volunteer review on a grand scale in September; but when it became known that the Duke of Cambridge would be in Lancashire in October, to inaugurate the new Townhall at Preston, it was deemed advisable by the promoters of the review to postpone it for a month, in order to secure the additional éclat of his Royal Highness's presence. On being applied to, the Duke of Cambridge at once assented to the request made to him; and the review was consequently deferred until Saturday, the 5th inst. The review, though on the whole a great success, was not on so large a scale as was expected, the troops on the ground being about 12,000 in number, while upwards of 20,000 or 30,000 were originally expected to take part in the affair.

The ground selected for the review was a fine expanse of 400 acres, with wide sweeping undulations from east to west, and well adapted for both cavalry and infantry manoeuvres. The land was recently purchased by the Liverpool Corporation from the Earl of Sefton for the sum of £250,000, and is now being converted by Mr. Lewis Hornblower (a Liverpool architect) and M. Andre (of Paris) into a park which will be the largest and the most complete and picturesque of any of the public parks which have yet been opened in Liverpool. It is situated at the Tuxeth Park end of the town, in the immediate neighbourhood of Aigburth, long the favourite place of residence of the wealthiest local merchants, but which, during the last few years, and particularly since the opening of the Prince's Park, has lost a good deal of its seclusion and aristocratic quietude. The work of transformation into a park has only just commenced, and neither plantations nor walks have yet been formed.

The day was observed as a general holiday in the town, and all the banks, news-rooms, public bodies, and upwards of two thirds of the shops were closed at mid-day. There was an immense display of bunting in the streets, and every ship in the river and docks on both sides of the Mersey were decked out in all the colours of the rainbow from stem to stern.

The arrangements for the review could not be carried out in their entirety; for, in spite of printed requests to the public to keep within the prescribed bounds and the energetic efforts of the town and country police, the mob would surge to and fro over the field of battle, and once, during the marching past, the Duke of Cambridge had to stop the volunteers and send the whole of his staff to assist the police in driving back the "roughs." In fact, at the last, several movements of great interest, including an intended charge of cavalry, could not be effected, as the spectators got inextricably mixed up with the various corps. The attack and defence were, however, energetically carried out. The spectators, upwards of 50,000 in number, seemed to be highly delighted with all they saw.

The saluting-flag was fixed at one side of the park, in front of some covered platforms, which accommodated about 3000 persons. The central one, which was tastefully decorated, was reserved for the Sefton and Derby families and their guests, who filled about ten carriages. The Countess of Derby and the Countess of Sefton were both present. The review was announced to commence shortly after one p.m.; but his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief and his aides-de-camp, Lord Paulet and Colonel Tyrwhitt, did not come on the ground until twenty minutes to three. The Duke was also attended by Lord Sefton, Lord Lieutenant of the county, who wore his official uniform and the ribbon of the Garter. The Duke and party were loudly cheered as they came on to the ground. After passing before and behind the various regiments massed in the middle of the park, the Duke, attended by a brilliant staff, returned to the saluting-flag, and the serious proceedings of the day began shortly after three o'clock.

Major-General Sir John Garwick, K.C.B., was the commanding officer for the day, with the usual complement of aides-de-camp, and a large volunteer staff, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Erskine, Inspector-General of Volunteers. The troops passed the flag in the following order:—Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Sir R. Gerard, Bart.; artillery, Colonel Cox, R.A., commanding; field batteries, Lieutenant-Colonel Clay, commanding; garrison batteries—infantry, first division, Major-General Kenny, commanding; second division, Brigadier-General Sir A. Horsford, K.C.B., commanding; third division, Brigadier-General T. S. Brownrigg, C.B., commanding.

After the battle, his Royal Highness, who had been in different parts of the field, returned to the saluting-flag, and, after a brief conversation with the Countess of Derby, galloped away from the park en route for Knowsley. At this time the firing had not quite ceased; but, as the daylight was fading, the vast crowds wisely followed the Royal example and wended their way homewards.

### FIRES IN EDINBURGH.

FIRES, like other misfortunes, never come singly, and the Canoncatastrophe, reported in our last Number, has been followed by several others, two of them of serious magnitude. Happily, however, in none of them was there any loss of life. Early on Thursday morning week the fine old Castle of Dalhousie—the property of Lord Dalhousie, and tenanted by Mr. Rutherford Clark, advocate—was discovered to be on fire. The household were immediately aroused and the alarm was given, and ere long many willing hands were at work striving energetically to subdue the flames. The supply of water seems at first to have been deficient, and it was long before any good effect was apparent. After persisting for some hours, however, the efforts of the volunteer firemen were crowned with success, although not before a considerable part of the building had been consumed and much valuable property destroyed, the total damage amounting to the value of about £3500. Nothing is known regarding the origin of the fire.

On the same evening, about ten o'clock, a terrific outbreak of fire took place in the tanwork of Messrs. Hewitt and Son, situated in the heart of a dense population, between two of the steep closes on the north slope of the old town of Edinburgh, behind the High-street. It formed, between alarms and actual fires, the sixth call on the services of the Edinburgh Fire Brigade in two days—a circumstance locally unprecedented. Like too many recent fires, the cause of the conflagration is a mystery, and its existence was not suspected till it burst forth with great fury from the tanhouses. Great consternation seized the populous district, which had already been much startled by the disaster the day previous in the Canongate. The tanworks being surrounded by dwellings, though only at one point abutting on them, the poor people made haste to rescue their furniture; and in many cases they were glad to escape with their lives. The neighbouring closes were immediately blocked with household stuff, and great quantities were carried to the High-street, where frightened women and cowering children might be seen in groups, just having escaped from homes which it was feared the flames would reach. The fire brigade were promptly on the spot, and, there being ample pressure of water, the hose was played with great effect on the fire, it being unnecessary for the engines to pump. Their first efforts were directed to the tanhouse and to preventing the fire catching hold of a populous building on the south. Their operations were greatly hindered by want of space, and they had to deal with a fire raging over a building composed of brick and wood, about 90 ft. long, 30 ft. broad, and three stories high. The progress of the fire was watched by great numbers of people from the North Bridge, and from the neighbouring closes; and, as floor after floor of the tanhouse gave way, the consternation of the spectators was audibly expressed. For about an hour the Calton Hill, the prison, and the post-office, which stood on the heights opposite the slope, were brilliantly illuminated by the radiance of the flames. By twelve o'clock the fire was completely got under, but the fire-brigade continued on the ground two hours longer, till all risk of a

renewal of the fire was past. The stock and machinery were, of course, the most serious part of the loss; and only a small quantity of material can possibly be recovered from the debris. We understand that the premises and their contents were fully insured.

### OYSTER CULTURE IN ENGLAND.

MUCH interest has of late years been excited by the efforts made to establish oyster-farms on the French and English coasts for the breeding, growth, and fattening of oysters for the market. The oyster-farms on the coast of France continue their work successfully, and supply a vast number of oysters to the Paris and other markets; but their success is understood to have been more marked in the growth and fattening of purchased oysters laid down in their *pares* than in the raising of spat from old fish. The same may be said of most of the oyster-farms on the English coast, although there are exceptions here, to which we shall presently refer. In the establishment of any oyster-farm, where the operations are mainly intended for the breeding of oysters that are to be afterwards preserved for growth and fattened for the market on the same grounds, there is necessarily a large outlay of capital made in the first instance, and three or four years must then elapse—presuming that a rise of spat has been obtained from the first batch of oysters laid down in the prepared beds—before any return can be obtained from this original expenditure. With this important fact ever present for the consideration of the oyster producer, it is not surprising that a far greater amount of attention has been paid by them to the growth and fattening of oysters purchased from coast dredgers than to the raising of spat from old fish. The acknowledged result of this course has, however, been to denude natural breeding-grounds on both coasts of fish, old and young, and it has only been the almost insurmountable difficulty met with for several years now past in procuring oysters of any kind suitable for the fattening-beds that has turned the attention of people in the direction of breeding as well as fattening oysters for the table. Mr. Lowe, one of the secretaries of the Acclimatisation Society, has stated that, in answer to his inquiries concerning the French natural oyster-beds, he was informed that the number of oysters dredged from the Cancale deep-sea beds in 1863 was under four millions, while twelve years previously the take averaged sixty millions. He also refers to the well-known fact of the discovery of a bed of oysters lying off in the Channel between the two coasts, which was three miles in length. In a very short time the oyster-dredgers cleared the bank and destroyed all life for reproduction by their rapacity. Mr. Fenner, Inspector of Fisheries to the English Government, reported a few years since that on one part of the Irish coast one bed of oysters gave employment to 2000 fishermen; but so recklessly were the beds dredged for the unfortunate bivalves that the freight, which once reached £1000 per week in the season, had fallen down to £300 per annum. The French were the first to appreciate the fall weight of the suicidal policy pursued for the supply of oysters by this overdredging of the natural deep-sea breeding-grounds. MM. Coste and Kemmerer may be considered to have been the pioneers of the new state of things on the French coast, where the main supply of the future for the markets is looked for from the breeding-beds established at St. Brieuc and other places. Referring to what the French have done in this respect, Dr. Henry Lawson, the editor of the *Popular Science Review*, says:—"The most convincing evidence of all is that afforded by the Isle of Ré. Five years since the shores of this island were barren and uncultivated; now they give employment to 3000 men, and the crop of oysters produced in 1861 was valued at £320,000 sterling." The oyster-farms on the Isle of Ré are, however, much more valuable and productive now than at the time Dr. Lawson wrote of them.

The most successful instance of the rise of oyster-spat and its preservation up to this time on the English coast for the present year has occurred at Hayling Island, a few miles east of the Isle of Wight, where an inclosed area of water of eighteen acres, and of from 5 ft. to 6 ft. in depth, may be almost said to be crowded with oysterlings. To show, however, clearly what has been done and is now doing with oysters at Hayling, we must leave the baby molluscs and travel backwards for a short time. We may refer to the "Domesday Book," and find there the Hayling and Emsworth oyster-beds referred to and marked with a certain annual value—those of Emsworth being valued at 6s. 8d. Looking back through the haze of centuries, in fact, there is no apparent limit to be found to the time of the laying down of the oyster in the waters of the harbours now called "Langston," "Emsworth," and "Chichester." In making excavations for the formation of new beds, a few weeks back, at Hayling, through a morass that must have been a morass for ever, the remains of a skeleton were found, which had been interred in the ancient manner, with the knees drawn up to the chin, and with the remnants of oyster and other shells with it. A few moments after exposure to the atmosphere the bones fell into indistinguishable form in dust. The natives of the island, so it has been said, aver this to have been the remains of the man who first tasted an oyster!

The natural capabilities of the coast line and indented creeks of Hayling Island for artificial aids in the culture of the oyster, which for unknown centuries had bred there, first led, in 1865, to a private and successful attempt at raising spat, and afterwards to the formation of a company to enable the work to be carried out on a requisite scale. This company have, so far, been most fortunate, although no returns will be seen for the outlay of capital in the raising of spat alone for two years to come; and its experience even thus far in the somewhat uncertain business of oyster-raising is worth some attention from all who may have a weakness for the "inhabitant of the shell," or may take an interest, business or otherwise, in pisciculture.

The first great experiment made by the Hayling Oyster Fishery was made on the site of some old salterns at the south-east extremity of the island, the entire water area experimented in being about three acres and a half. The results of the experiment were of a most unaccountable, although perfectly satisfactory, character; and, when we state that precisely similar puzzling results have been obtained this year at the opposite side of the island, and on a very much larger area of water, we may, possibly, have said enough to fully rouse the interest of the reader. In the spring of last year two *pares* were prepared for the old oysters to throw off their spat in—one on the plan pursued on Lake Fusaro, in Italy, and the other on the French plan pursued on the Ile de Ré. The Fusaro bed, as we may term it for plainness of description, was of about 3 ft. depth of water, which, as a general rule, might be considered as still water, fresh water only being admitted at spring tides through a sluice gate from the harbour outside the banks of the oyster-farm. The bed of this *parc* was partly covered with shingle, and on this shingle were laid, early in April, 50,000 oysters from deep-sea beds; light and flat hurdles, formed of hazel sticks and brushwood, were laid over the oysters, and held by stakes in the bed of the pond a certain distance above them. The other bed, on the plan of the French at Ile de Ré, was entirely laid with shingle (over the saltern beds), and had a constantly yet gentle running stream of water passing over it. In lieu of using hazel-stick hurdle for collecting the spat, tiles were laid down. Both ponds, or *pares*, were connected by a narrow waterway, through which the water flowed from the Fusaro into the Ile de Ré beds. There was no material difference in the time of laying down the oysters in either bed, nor was there any difference in the quality of either. The result of this experiment was that, while the pond on the Lake Fusaro plan was filled with spat at spawning time, the other pond held no spat, nor was any thrown off by its oysters subsequently. The spat was first discovered in the first week in June in the Fusaro pond, and there was no second display. Unfortunately for this supply of oysterlings, really magnificent by reason of their number and the manner in which they had thriven by the beginning of the following September, it was determined, contrary to the advice of the company's manager, to allow the young oysters to remain attached to the hurdles in their first position for a certain time, and until they had obtained a larger size. The consequence was that the shell of the growing babies grew round the sticks of the hurdles, and in subsequently removing them the under-

shell was broken in three cases out of four, and 75 per cent of the fish destroyed. The oysters that did not suffer from this barbarous detaching process at a wrong period of life are now flourishing amazingly in *pares* specially prepared for their comfort and growth on the site of the Ile de Ré beds of last year's experiment, and which has now undergone an entire remodelling and arrangement. In their new home the oyster spat gathered and saved from off the hurdles laid over the oysters in the Fusaro *parc* now measure from a minimum size of one inch to a maximum of two inches in diameter. In September, 1869, these oysters will be in the market for consumption on our tables. The successful experiment of last year in the Fusaro water was, of course, repeated this year, with, as nearly as possible, the same preliminary attendant conditions. Strangely enough, however, and curiously illustrative, as it proves of the uncertainty of oyster-hatching, no spat rose this year from the depths of what promised last year to be the richest oyster-mine in England. No known and reliable theory can account for this striking difference by the marked success of one year and the failure of the next.

This part of the company's grounds is being re-arranged. They now comprise one breeding-pond (the old Fusaro water) empty, and being cleaned out in readiness for future operations, and six acres of water space, divided into nine *pares*, lying parallel with each other. Each *parc* is inclosed by puddled clay walls, lined with chalk blocks, and has its water sluice at the head and foot. The floor, or bed, is made of shingle sand, and has a fall of about 20 in. from head to foot. A reservoir trench, running across the head of the *pares* and having communication with the harbour waters, gives a means of water supply to the *pares* through the head sluices, and a cleansing of their bed by rushing the water through them and out through the foot sluices into the drain trench. The latter also acts a canal for the flat-boat in any visit to the *pares* and their contents. It is a very important fact that in the shallowest of these *pares* during last winter not one of the oysterlings of the previous summer's spat was known to have been killed by the cold weather or frost.

It is now time to return to the three-months old oysterlings left imprisoned in the eighteen-acre *parc* at the opposite extremity of the island.

In September of last year the company's engineer had just commenced operations for the formation of *pares* and other inclosed spaces on the north-west shore of the island, the walls of No. 1 *parc* being at no great distance from the bridge across the narrow channel which separates Havant from the island of Hayling. All there was in an embryo state; now there are one *parc* of eighteen acres area and another of seven acres, both in working order. There are also ten acres being laid out in parallel beds, with puddled clay and chalk lined walls, trench and reservoir, as on the old Ile de Ré site, and a feeding-reservoir of five acres. In addition, low walls have been commenced over a large area of shoals between two points of the coast, communicating channels are being cut for boat service between the shoals and "rythés" deepened, and 800 other and adjoining acres remain for any further extension of the present range of *pares* which may be found requisite. Our present purpose is to deal more with what has been done, however, than with what may be done here. The eighteen-acre *parc* and the adjoining one of seven acres were both stocked with oysters during the spring of the present year, the conditions in both cases being as nearly as possible alike; the oysters themselves, it is necessary to observe, being taken indiscriminately from one lot and deposited at the same time in both *pares*. The water in both ranged from 5 ft. to 6 ft. in depth, and wattled-work hurdles of hazel sticks and fine twigs were staked down over the oysters, and at a certain height above them. Two thousand tubs of oysters were laid down. On June 1 the presence of spat was first discovered in the eighteen-acre *parc*, and by the 6th the births of the oyster baby hosts were evidently brought to a close for the season. Sixteen thousand hurdles were staked over the old oysters. These hurdles are now being taken up, and the oysterlings removed, with the bark, from the larger sticks by a number of men and lads employed for the purpose, and the smaller twigs cut into short lengths of four or five inches. These strips of bark and cut lengths of twigs, with the oysterlings attached in sizes varying from a pea to that of a large horse-bean, are then sent away to the *pares* prepared for their reception and growth for market. Taking the lowest estimate of the numbers of oysterlings on each of these hurdles taken up from the eighteen-acre *parc* as the spat there of the season, they cannot average less than 5000, giving a grand total of 80,000,000, young oysters as stock for market in 1870-1. The manager of the company, Mr. George W. Hart, intends removing the oysterlings altogether from the hazel bark and twigs as soon as this can be done without danger to the life of the fish, and in this decision he will be acting on a correct principle. The earlier an oysterling is removed from any rigid material of uneven surface the better.

It was estimated in 1864 that seven hundred millions of oysters were consumed annually in London, and considerably more than that number in the provinces. With our growing population annually increasing the number of oyster-eaters what a grand future appears to be looming upon oyster producers!

### THE WRECK REGISTER FOR 1866.

(From the "Lifeboat" for October.)

We have for many years past been in the habit of making a few remarks on the wreck register, prepared by the Board of Trade, and presented to Parliament; and we have done so principally with the view of directing attention to the loss of life from shipwreck on our coasts, and to the means employed in rescuing shipwrecked sailors. We find, on examining this carefully-compiled register, that the number of wrecks and casualties from all causes on the coasts of the United Kingdom and in the surrounding seas reported in 1866 was 1860. The number reported in 1864 was 1390, and in 1865 it was 1656. The annual average number of casualties during the five years ending 1866 was 1611; and during the five years ending 1865, 1538. The average number of shipwrecks on our coasts during the past ten years has been 1466. The aggregate number of vessels entering inwards and clearing outwards from all our ports in 1866 was 403,598, the number in 1865 being 402,255. It is not surprising, therefore, that, considering the enormous number of voyages thus performed, the number of shipwrecks every year on our coast is necessarily proportionately large; although, of course, their number will depend very much on the violence of the gales of the year.

During the gales of 1866—that is, when the wind was blowing at force 9 and upwards—855 disasters occurred.

The number of ships lost or damaged in the 1860 casualties reported in 1866 is 2289, representing registered tonnage of upwards of 427,000 tons. The number of ships in 1866 is in excess of the number in 1865 by 277. The number of ships reported as lost or damaged is, as has been formerly stated, in excess of the number of casualties reported, because in cases of collision two or more ships are involved in one casualty. Of the 2289 ships, 1961 are known to have been ships belonging to Great Britain and its dependencies, ships. Of the remaining 34 ships the country and employment are unknown. Of the total number of casualties reported in 1866, 422 were collisions and 1438 were casualties other than collisions. Of these 1438 casualties other than collisions, 562 resulted in total losses and 876 in partial damage more or less serious. The annual average for ten years, including 1866, is for total losses 463, and for partial losses 668.

Surely, a large number of these casualties are preventable ones. It is true that within late years the standard of qualification for masters and mates of our merchant-vessels has been considerably raised. We think it might with advantage be more generally extended, as of these disasters a large proportion can be clearly traced to the ignorance as well as carelessness of man rather than to the elements over which he has no control. It should, however, be remembered that good seamen cannot save a bad craft; and we certainly think that something ought to be done with the wretched rotten colliers that crawl along the coast at the mercenary instance of men

who care more for money than for human life. Many of these vessels are so decayed and unseaworthy that shipping insurance associations will not even admit them on their books. There is no law in existence to prevent them putting to sea, and so they are navigated at such cost as the wreck chart which accompanies the register too plainly indicates.

Again, let us remember that the total number of ships which, according to the facts reported to the Board of Trade, appear to have foundered or to have been otherwise totally lost on the coasts of the British Isles, from unseaworthiness alone, in ten years, is 423; and the number of casualties caused through unseaworthy ships, unsound gear, &c., and resulting in partial damage, in the same time, is 586. In 1866 there were 116 casualties to fishing-smacks alone. Excluding these 116, the number of vessels employed in the regular carrying trade that have suffered from wreck or casualty during the year is 2173. On this number being subdivided, we find that 1150, or more than half of it, is represented by the unseaworthy, overladen, or ill-found vessels of the collier class chiefly employed in the coasting trade. Thus, then, amidst this dreadful havoc arising from rotten ships, and when the storm has shouted and raged in the bitter night, the wild despairing cry "of the strong swimmer in his agony" has been borne on the fierce cold wind to straining ears in the life-boat, or at the rocket station on the shore; many a cheek has been whitened, never to bloom again; many an eye has faded, never more to shine; and many a home has been made desolate for ever. Would it not be something, then, to save even one life, with all its hopes, and to keep the home of one poor woman and her children unclouded by the pangs of desolation? There is plenty of room here for those who wish to do good, for its own sake, through the National Life-boat Institution.

We all know, from long experience, that the colliers of the north-east coast have an established reputation as the rottenest and worst-found vessels that leave our ports. Year after year we learn that the casualties which might be expected have overtaken them; but still the mischief goes on, neither the provisions of the common law nor the special Acts which relate to shipping being sufficient to control it. There is only one thing that will remedy the evil: if the men who navigate these wretched craft had received the education that brings intelligence and self-respect, and which, in some other countries, is the birthright of the poorest citizen, they would be less disposed to permit themselves to be sent to sea in what are no better than floating coffins.

In the eight years ending in 1866 casualties to comparatively new ships bear a very high proportion to the whole number of casualties. Even at the age of twenty-five to thirty, it occasionally happens amongst the coasters that a ship is so rotten as to fall to pieces immediately on touching the ground, without giving the crew the slightest chance of getting out their boats. As usual, the greatest number of casualties have occurred on the east coast.

As regards the loss of life, the returns show that the number of lives lost from shipwreck on or near the coasts of the United Kingdom, from all causes, in 1866, is 896. When it is remembered that the lives thus lost are taken from amongst probably half a million of persons who have visited our ports during the last year alone, the number may appear to the casual observer a comparatively small one. We are, however, of opinion that it is a very large number; and when we bear in mind the inestimable value of one life, we are convinced that no effort should be left untried which can in any way lessen the annual loss of life from shipwreck on our coasts. And here we may remark on the noble and great efforts that are being made to save life from shipwreck. During the last year and a half the National Life-boat Institution has, by its life-boats and other means, contributed to the saving of upwards of 1600 lives, in addition to bringing to ports of safety some forty vessels from threatened destruction. Again, this large number of 1600 lives is entirely independent of the lives saved during the same period by the rocket apparatus, which is worked by that valuable class of men the coast-guard, and which is provided for by the Board of Trade out of the Mercantile Marine Fund.

The life-boat society has now a noble fleet of 183 life-boats on our shores, requiring a large permanent annual income to maintain them in a state of thorough efficiency, and who can doubt that the institution is deserving of the continued sympathy and support of the British public at large?

While the greatest number of casualties happened on the east coast of England, it is clearly shown that the greatest loss of life during the seven years ending 1866 occurred in the Irish Sea. The number of lives lost in that sea during the seven years is more than double the number lost on any other part of the coasts. During the winter months hardly a week passes in which the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution stationed on the Irish coast are not called out to render assistance to ships in distress on the Blackwater and other dangerous sandbanks on that coast. It is shown that westerly gales are far more fatal than easterly gales, the most fatal being from south-west.

The aggregate loss of life on our coasts is enormous, and so is the aggregate destruction of property. The former is a species of woe inflicted on humanity; the latter is practically a tax upon commerce. While the art of saving life on the coast is understood (thanks to the progress of science and to the stout hearts of our coast population), the art of preserving property is as yet but imperfectly known amongst us, and still more imperfectly practised.

On reviewing this dismal record we are bound to take courage from the many gratifying facts it reveals in regard to saving life, which, after all, is our principal object in commenting on this doleful register. Noble work has been done, and is doing, for that purpose, which has not only elicited the admiration of the British public, but also that of many foreign nations. This fact was strikingly illustrated last July by the international jury of the Paris Universal Exhibition awarding to the National Life-boat Institution one out of their nineteen great gold medals in acknowledgement of the important services it had rendered to shipwrecked sailors of all nations—thousands of whom it had rescued from a premature grave, and many lones from the desolation of widowhood and orphanage.

**EXECUTIONS IN LONDON.**—On Tuesday morning two executions took place in London. At the Old Bailey there was a scene of a most horrible character. The man Wiggins, who was convicted of the murder of the woman with whom he cohabited in Poplar, protested his innocence to the last; and on the scaffold struggled with so much violence that it required the assistance of several warders to restrain him. The crowd, which was a much smaller one than usual, was paralysed with horror while this frightful scene was being enacted. Wiggins died declaring that his paramour committed suicide. Shortly afterwards the execution of Bordier for the Old Kent-road murder took place at Horseshoe-lane. The crowd was much more numerous at this point. The culprit died with great firmness, and expressed in strong terms his penitence.

**THE ABBYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.**—We understand that Lord Stanley has addressed an ultimatum to King Theodore, intimating that all friendly relations with him are broken off. From this it may be inferred that no further attempt will be made to procure the release of the captives by diplomatic measures. The letter would probably be forwarded to its destination by Colonel Merewether, who left Aden on the 28th ult. in charge of the pioneer and reconnoitring party, consisting of thirty horse, 260 of the Marine battalion, and a company of sappers. The first object will be to fix the point of debarkation, which it is now tolerably certain will be in Annesley Bay; and while the sappers are preparing it for the landing of the force, Colonel Merewether will be engaged in selecting a healthy spot for a camp, as near the sea as possible, and in reconnoitring the future line of march as far as practicable. This, it is hoped, may be effected as far as Antalo, or by the east of it. A native regiment and the 3rd Light Cavalry were to leave Bombay on the 3rd inst., a strong brigade on Nov. 1, and the remainder as soon as they could be sent up. Some apprehensions are entertained that the movements of the troops will be hampered for want of carriage. It is not unlikely, however, that a muley of the 12,000 men may be left as a re-entrant the first healthy position on the highlands, and that the fighting column will be restricted to 2000 men. It appears that the captives had heard from the Wagshum Gobezie, who entertained some idea of getting possession of Magdala and of the captives, including the Abuna. Should he succeed, his object was to induce the Abuna to anoint him Emperor, vice Theodore excommunicated. The captives at Magdala would probably be safe in his hands, and he might be prevailed upon to make them over to us for a consideration. The unfortunate Germans at Debra Tabor are in much greater jeopardy, and it is feared that on hearing of our hostile preparations the infatiate King may wreak his vengeance upon them and the poor ladies.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

## Literature.

*A Golden Heart.* A Novel. By Tom Hood. London: Tinsley Brothers.

It is seldom that talent of a high order and a peculiar kind exhibits itself hereditarily in so marked a manner as in Thomas Hood *pere* and Tom Hood *sils.* In the writings of the son, as in those of the father, wit, humour, satire, descriptive power, and touching pathos are prominently developed; and yet there is no trace of imitation to be found in the works of the younger Hood. The attributes we have mentioned exhibit themselves in Tom Hood's writings because they are in his nature, not because he is a copyist of his father's style. Both are original, though both display similar characteristics. We are not sure but we or some one else may have made a like remark before; but whether that be so or not, we say it now because in the work before us these qualities are exhibited in a remarkable degree.

"A Golden Heart" contains the history of two sisters, Marian and Alice Carlyon, the daughters of a Cornwall squire of long, if not very distinguished, descent; and of James Trefusis, an engineer and inventor, who is the lover, and ultimately the husband, of the elder sister; Trefusis being the hero and Marian Carlyon the heroine of the tale. The father of the two girls, George Carlyon, of Polvrehan, Cornwall, after having successfully established engineering works in the neighbourhood of his property, falls into the ordinary habits of the male members of his family—idleness and drinking; and is finally ruined by mining speculations, into which he has been tempted by Henry Cormack, an unprincipled adventurer, whom he has taken into partnership, who possesses himself of all Carlyon's property, and finally places the means of committing suicide in his way, with which poor Carlyon, in a fit of desperation, destroys himself. By this event the two girls are thrown penniless and friendless upon the world; for James Trefusis, who had learned practical engineering in their father's foundry, and who was almost the only person to whom they could have applied for counsel and guidance, had previously repaired to London, and did not know of their father's misfortunes and death till long afterwards. Left to their own resources, the girls also repair to London and undertake the duties of governesses—Marian in the house of Mr. Orr, a rich *parvenu* banker, and Alice in that of Lord Lacquoine, a poor, proud peer, with a long pedigree and little to support it. Both engagements turn out unfortunately, each of the girls being unmercifully dismissed—Marian for catching smallpox, and Alice for falling in love with, and being fallen in love with by, the young heir of the Lacquoines, the Hon. Henry Vorian. Marian, being strong-minded and high-principled, though naturally plain in feature, and made still more so by the ravages of smallpox, perseveres in well-doing; works, waits, and wins, being ultimately united to Trefusis, who gains distinction by the invention of a new system of rifling cannon, which, after being rejected by the British Ordnance authorities, is accepted by the Emperor Napoleon, who, with the aid of guns made on the Trefusis system, defeats the Austrians at Magenta and Solferino, and helps to win Lombardy for Italy. Alice—beautiful, but weak and facile—falls a victim to the arts of her father's evil genius and semi-murderer, Cormack, and sinks into darkness. But the villain does not escape retribution. He is crushed to death by the fall of an engine-house, which he had erected on the Polvrehan property; but which, being only built to sell and not to stand, tumbles down on the first shocks of the engine; and thus Cormack meets a fate similar to that of the engineer who was "hoist with his own petard."

These are the leading outlines of the story; but interwoven with it are two episodical histories, powerfully delineated—those of the Orrs and the Lacquoines. Mr. Orr—for whose portrait, we fancy, a certain canting banking Baronet, who was convicted and transported for swindling some years ago, must have stood—is a hard, cruel, selfish, money-grubber, though pretending to be pious, benevolent, and so forth; and his wife is all that, and vulgar to boot. Lord and Lady Lacquoine, who manage to marry their son to the millionaire's daughter, are proud, heartless, and mean. Both families come to grief. The banker fails; is convicted of forgery, and transported; and dies in a felon's cell, neglected and forgotten. His daughter, the wife of the Lacquoine heir, elopes with a sharper Major, who has been dismissed from his regiment for pillaging the pay-chest, who is reduced to living by his wits, and who leaves the faithless wife penniless at Boulogne. Henry Vorian is drawn in attempting to save a shipwrecked crew; and my Lord and my Lady are reduced to greater straits than ever, his Lordship lending his name to puff quack medicines and her Ladyship using her position to introduce snobs into "good society"—each "for a consideration." In delineating the internal economy of these two families, the Orrs and the Lacquoines, Mr. Hood exhibits rare descriptive powers; the peep he affords into the regions of Bohemia supplies opportunities for the exercise of his wit and powers of observation; while in the loves and labours of Marian and the unhappy career of poor Alice, he has ample scope for displaying the pathetic side of his mind and the kindly feelings of his heart. The experiences of James Trefusis of the ways of the War Office, again, furnish a picture of the working of our public departments worthy to stand beside that drawn by Mr. Charles Dickens in "Little Dorrit." We had marked several passages for extract, with the view of showing Mr. Hood's varied powers; but want of space precludes our reproducing more than one, and that is from the chapter entitled "On the Borders of Bohemia," and which we may call

### CHARLIE CRAWHALL'S COLOUR HARMONICON.

Under the window stood an instrument not unlike a piano. James asked Charlie if he could play.

"Yes. Sit down and watch," was the answer; and James did sit down, and Charlie, placing himself in front of the instrument, opened it, and touched the keys.

No sound came from them; but at the back, as the artist's fingers wandered over the notes, rose discs of coloured glass—sometimes singly, sometimes together, or gradually passing in front of one another.

"Why, what on earth is that, Charlie?"

"Hush! Don't interrupt. Look! there's a lovely harmony; and then you see it dies away in a warm grey, just touched with the purple."

"What is the meaning of this?"

"He asks what the meaning is! Bless the man, have you no eye for music? This is my great invention, Jim, and I mean to make my fortune with it—only I can't find the right man to undertake to bring it out properly."

"Bring what out?"

"Why this musical instrument. Don't you feel the music? Look here!"

He turned to the keys again, and began to touch them.

The sun was pouring in through the window; and as the transparent discs rose and sank in the frame above the piano, they glowed with indescribable warmth and beauty. Now some pure tint would be shown—tender purple or rich amber—and then some other hue would mingle with it, giving place to yet another; the colours now full and splendid—now sombre and grand—now soft and delicate.

"Now watch," said Charlie, growing excited as he bent over the instrument, and, at a touch of the noiseless keys, summoned up fresh combinations.

"Now watch. See if you can find out the tune. But no! You're not used to it yet. You must cultivate your eye. I'll explain it to you. It's a piece I call 'Spring.' You see it opens with a subdued blue; with a little tremolo grey—that's a difficult note, that grey—and then comes a little twinkle of soft yellow sunlight, followed by exquisitely tender greens—you see, charming variations, those greens—and then for the flowers, violets, and may, and buttercups. Look! is not that delicious? There are harmonies, old fellow! And then more sunlight; and now the rosy hues, for coming summer, and on to a subdued sombre purple for the close of day, with a delicate twinkling of silver light for the stars. There's a piece for you! You couldn't express one half of that in music: this is the real sort of harmony. How do your eyes feel?"

"A little dazzled with looking at the sunlight."

"Ah! you've an uncultivated eye as yet. To me the harmony of colours is the most exquisite delight. Whenever I am stuck up in a picture I come here and play it, and you can't think what stunning thoughts I get."

"This is a queer thought, at any rate!"

"Not bit of it. It is only appreciating music by another sense. The vibrations of colour and the vibrations of sound are exactly the same, it's my belief, Jim. Why, I often see the colours of the different notes when people play; and I'm sure that music and colour are the same thing, only we call it by different names, according to the manner in which we are conscious of it. The feeling produced by a well-harmonised picture is identical with that produced by a well-harmonised piece of music. All painters are, in fact, musicians."

We have real pleasure in speaking of this book in terms of sincere eulogy, for we have seldom, of late, read a more interesting novel. The author has done good work here, and we are persuaded will do even better work still by-and-by. It is a pity, however, that Mr. Hood should have received such scant justice from his printers. The book is full of blunders, which are the less excusable seeing that this is a reprint, the story having originally appeared in a provincial newspaper; but these blunders are so palpably those of the printer that they luckily do not mar the merits of the author's performance.

*Pleasures of Old Age.* From the French of EMILE SOUVETRE. London: Routledge and Sons.

Strong as the hyperbole sounds, it is impossible to value these pages too highly. They describe the delights which may be found in advanced years, and teach people to approach old age with serenity, to banish terror of death, and to reverence the approach of the last days of all and of what may come after. Moreover, old age is represented with such calmness and dignity that it affords an admirable lesson for all unruly youngsters who do not recognise "the crown" in grey hairs. It is summing up the well-spent day—a homely review of scenes vanished without being regretted, because of the fresh scenes which have supplied their place. Up to—well, a certain age, at least—men think the present time the happiest they have known. We lose youth, friends, and lovers; but the healthy mind recognises the doctrine of compensation, and finds something little dreamed of in the passing years still. The happy ones will need no more recommendation than these various chapters, full of life and character and calm contemplation; and the less fortunate will gain from them that light of consolation of which they stand in need.

*Birds of Prey.* A Novel. By the Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," &c. 3 vols. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler.

"Birds of Prey" may be called "no news" to magazine-readers; but in this case "no news" cannot be called "good news." It is at best very indifferent news. Without going through the story, which must be known to many readers, and which has already received monthly commentary in these columns, it is sufficient to look at the main absurdities. The greater part of three volumes is taken up by the hunt for the real owner to an enormous property. This involves an amount of genealogy, tombstone-hunting, parish-record reading, and oldest-inhabitant recollection, which may, or may not, be very clever and very exact. But, whilst charitably supposing the best, it is only fair to ourselves to say that we could not read it. There is nothing more dull in literature than these dry genealogical researches. The conduct of a strong *law-cave* in a novel well managed, may sometimes be very effective—witness "Ten Thousand a Year" and "Night and Morning"—but human nature will not readily accept the dusty details. In the story, Valentine Hawkehurst, who hunts up the pedigree of the intestate Hawkehurst, gets £1 a week and his expenses as compensation for the dulness involved; but the reader of "Birds of Prey," &c., who is expected to follow Valentine's footsteps throughout, gets absolutely nothing; in addition to which, if anything can be in addition to nothing, he has to pay his subscription to *Madame*. This is carrying literature a little too far. Taking the characters separately, they are not to be despised. They are not new, but they are good, and bear their reappearance bravely. A poisoning husband, a weak friend (Palmer and Cook, of course), and a weak wife; some clever schemers and pretenders, and some insipid girls, are undeniably "portion and parcel of the dreadful present," and may therefore be expected in print. They have been often seen before. The best part of the writing is that first half of the third volume wherein Valentine finds love leading him from wrong paths back into duty and virtue. It is very admirably and ingeniously told. But we have to complain, on behalf of the reader, against the want of any principle or connection in the "story." It is literally a "story without an end," for nothing comes of it, except a promised sequel. There is absolutely nothing but the poisoning case and the heir-at-law hunting. Who is not sick of antimony and large derelict fortunes? The thing is evidently broken off at random because of the writer's fatal fluency, and because three volumes were full.

**COLLISION IN BELFAST.**—On Wednesday morning, a fearful steam-boat collision took place in Belfast Lough, opposite Carrickfergus. One of the Glasgow mail-steamer leaving Belfast on Tuesday night was detained by a fog, and as she lay at anchor waiting for daylight, one of the Fleetwood steamers, making for Belfast, ran into her, cutting her down to the water's edge. No one was killed, but all the passenger's luggage and many of the cattle on board were lost. The Wolf is almost irreparably damaged, and the Fleetwood steamer is also badly injured.

**A THAP FOR GULLS.**—On Tuesday, at the Guildhall Police Court, Alderman Bosley drew attention to a circular which, it appears, has been addressed to persons in various parts of the country. The circular emanates from some person calling himself Williams, who, according to his own showing, has hit upon a system of betting by which anybody can realise a fortune by the investment of a comparative trifle. He guarantees to return £60 per week to anybody who trusts him with £10; £160 for every £20; £330 for every £50; and £700 for every £50. He professes to be able to do this by means of some system he has discovered of making bets on horse-races. The publisher of the circular, with additional generosity, offers to disclose his secret for £100 and £900 on the first £1000 made by means of it. The magistrate doubted that any sane person could be deluded by such promises. A strange delusion has, however, before now been indulged in. The worthy Alderman has, at all events, put the public on their guard.

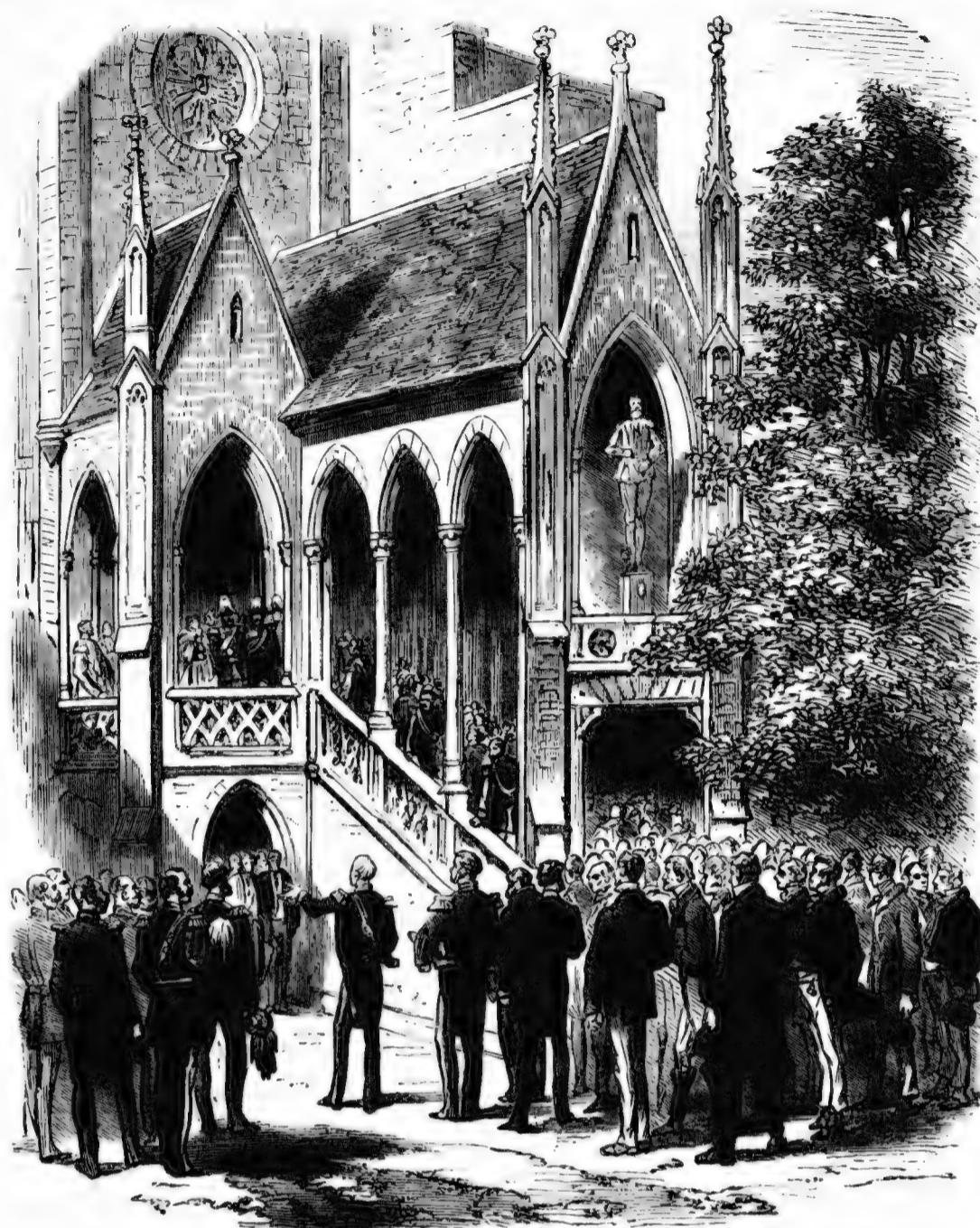
**THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.**—The sixthteenth quarterly report of the board, read at the meeting held at the offices, in Norfolk-street, Strand, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., states that the receipts for the fifteenth financial year, ending Sept. 30, were £116,988 0s. 1d.; and the grand totals to Michaelmas, 1867, £1,100,603 7s. 9d. The shares issued were 27,783, at £50 each, making £1,380,150; and the total withdrawn since the formation of the society (1852) to Michaelmas, 1867, £367,649 0s. 2d. The total sale of land for the same period was £367,650 19s. 6d. The reserve fund to Michaelmas was £13,318 2s. The second portion of the East London estate was allotted on Aug. 2, and building operations are in active progress thereon. Additional portions of the Forest Gate estate will be offered in due course, the continued demolition of houses, owing to the extension of the metropolitan railway system, rendering the opening up of new districts within an easy distance of town absolutely necessary. Bolingbroke Park, with its mansion and grounds, its extensive frontage to Wandsworth-common on the one side, and frontage to Battersea-ridge on the other, the whole being close to Clapham junction and New Wandsworth stations, had been acquired for the society. Mr. Persé Stace, public accountant, and Mr. Newham Winstanley for the board, and Mr. W. H. Clemow and Mr. J. Goad, are the four auditors to report as to the accounts and balance-sheet for the financial year ending Sept. 30, 1867, to be presented at the annual meeting, early in December next. The executive committee, in conclusion, congratulated the members on the happy auspices under which the sixteenth year of the Conservative Land Society had commenced. There were present at the meeting Viscount Ranleigh (chairman); Colonel Brownlow Knox, M.P.; the Hon. and Rev. W. Talbot; Major Jervis, M.P.; Mr. Carle, Mr. T. K. Holmes, Mr. Newcomen, Mr. Winstanley, Mr. Goad, Mr. Stace, Mr. Rentmire, &c.

**DEATH OF AN IRISH SPORTSMAN.**—Mr. Frederick W. Kennedy, a gentleman well known in Irish sporting circles, died very suddenly on Sunday night, at his residence in Limerick. He had for some years been master of the Limerick harriers, and, indeed, of late maintained the pack almost at his sole expense, but failing health obliged him to give them up, a step which preyed greatly upon his mind, and appears to have increased the physical decadence which necessitated it. Being unable to find any sportsman in the county who could be induced to take up the pack, Mr. Kennedy was obliged to dispose of the dogs by auction, and they were accordingly brought to the hammer on Saturday, and purchased for the Hunting Club of Tipperary. Mr. Kennedy attended the auction, and was so affected when he saw his canine favourites consigned to strangers that he shed tears; but the animals treated him to one last performance which aroused the slumbering Nimrod's spirit and seemed to give him new life and energy. As they were being driven out of the auction-yard they perceived a pet deer belonging to the auctioneer, and an exciting chase ensued. The animal sped through all the principal streets of Limerick, followed by the baying dogs and an immense number of the population, whose throats did duty for the huntsman's horn, until it returned to its owner's premises, where it was saved from the dogs. Mr. Kennedy declared that this impromptu run afforded him more enjoyment than any he had ever witnessed. The excitement of the unexpected event seemed to have a very beneficial effect on him, and during Sunday he was in very buoyant spirits. In the course of the evening, however, as he was walking across the yard of his residence, he fell down and expired without a word. An inquest was held on his remains, and it was proved that he died of disease of the heart.

**THE PARIS EXHIBITION.**  
THE RUSSIAN COURT AND COSTUMES.

VERY soon the French Great Exhibition will be "as a tale that is told," and our descriptions and illustrations are even now assuming almost the character of reminiscences; but there is this to be said for them, that they are reminiscences of a very interesting character — pictorial mementos of a pleasant holiday during which we seemed to have been on our travels all over the world, wandering up stairs and down stairs, and, like the celebrated gander of the nursery rhyme, penetrating even to "my lady's chamber," inasmuch as we have been permitted to unravel the mysteries of national toilettes and costumes; have seen ornaments made, and have inspected everything connected with textile fabrics, from flax and cotton pods, silkworms and oak bark, hair and hides, to lace, purple, fine linen, moire antique, morocco slippers, and chignons. The world has been our oyster, which we with our season-ticket have opened; and now we shall soon have to sit down; and, after counting the cost (no trifles; but then, it will be a long time before anybody attempts to inaugurate another universal exposition), move on our erratic journeys on "voyages zigzag"—from zone to zone, from India to the pole.

Speaking of poles reminds one of Russia, and of how little has been said about the Russian Court, considering its size and the ponderously-interesting character of its contents. This section occupies the whole of the left-hand side of the wide avenue intersecting the palace from the Porte de Saffren to the central garden—in fact, the thoroughfare is known as the Rue de Russie; and the peculiar open façades of carved wood-work painted in bright colours, as well as the quaint character of the fittings, made the Russian Court an attraction from the first. It is impossible to give any detailed account of the enormous variety of articles exhibited there, for Russia itself comprises half a dozen nationalities between Europe and Asia; and here we have a collection of those productions which illustrate how in that vast empire the extremes of barbarism and civilisation are made to meet. From the gold and precious stones to the iron, hemp, and hides; from the silks and brocades, brought overland from the Chinese borders, to the staring red cotton goods worn by the peasantry; from the exquisite



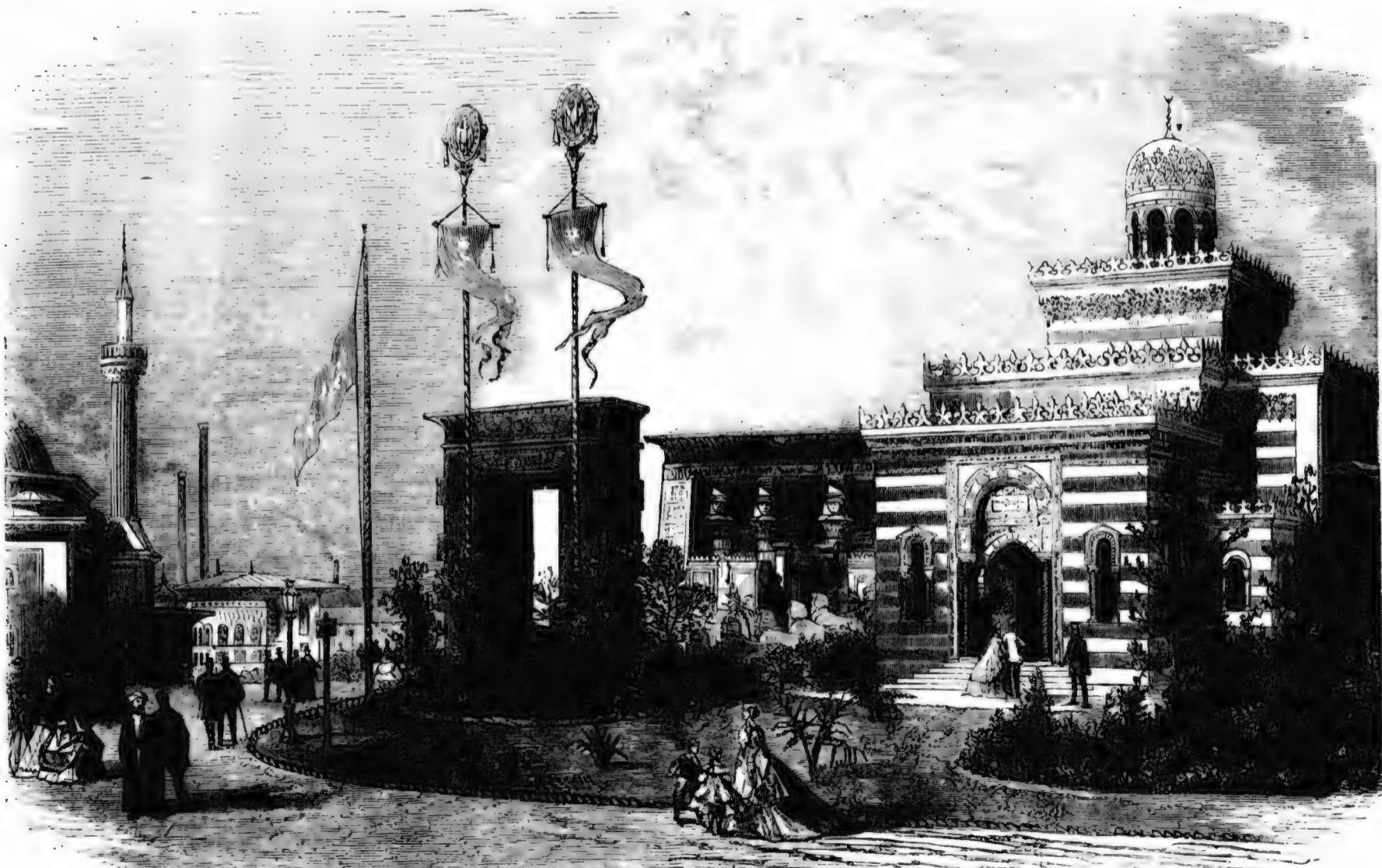
THE PRUSSIAN ROYAL FAMILY AT THE CHATEAU OF HOHENZOLLERN.—(SEE PAGE 213.)

embroideries of the Georgians to the fox furs and magnificent robes of the north of Siberia and of the Tourgoueses on the Amoor, all is in strange contrast. It is useless to name the articles, for who cares to read a catalogue? But, perhaps, the most attractive portion of the section is the grand furniture court, on one side of which is an immense Byzantine mosaic—an admirable work of art executed at the Imperial establishment of St. Petersburg, from original designs by Professor Neff.

In this splendid saloon are also to be seen some chefs-d'œuvre of the goldsmith's art, by Ignace Jasikoff, of Moscow and St. Petersburg. Here also is a beautiful table in Florentine mosaic, with ornaments in bronze; vase; in porphyry, jasper, and rhodonites; a collection of emeralds for mosaic work, carvings in wood, statuettes; suites of porcelain from the Imperial manufactory at St. Petersburg; cutlery from Paulovo, in the Nijni Novgorod; superb carpets from Tiflis and Donbuka; and, above all, the wonderful group, which have been the admiration of all the juvenile beholders, showing the various costumes of the inhabitants of the far-reaching territory which is here represented.

Of the Tourgoueses on the banks of the Amoor a very full description appeared long since in these columns; and among the figures in the Russian section stands one of these skin-clad hunters for the fox, looking as though he had just stepped out of the hide-covered hut where he lives, in the queer, smoke-dried native village, on the wintry plains of the great river that is neither Tartar nor Chinese, but across which lies one of the great overland reindeer routes. Far more melancholy is that solemn, sad, and almost hopeless-looking Siberian family, in their long fur robes; and a strange contrast to his comparatively plebeian-looking countryman from the Amoor is the Tourgouse from Nertchinak, in his queer dressing-gown-looking costume, and his cap, which gives him a grotesque Shakespearean character.

It is an abrupt transition enough from these people to Astrakhan, or Bessarabia, or to the Bashkirs, with their long-sleeved tunics and semi-Oriental aspect. Still more strange, if possible, is the gracefully-attired and majestic Circassian, turbaned, trousered, and embroidered, but with a wonderful determination under his regular, soft, and handsome features. The Cossack of the Don or



THE EGYPTIAN BUILDINGS IN THE PARK OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.



SANDAL FROM THE BANKS OF THE AMOUR.  
MAN AND WOMAN OF THE KASHEIRS.

FAMILY OF NORTHERN IBERIA.  
CIRCASSIAN.

TOUNGOUS OF NERTCHINSK.  
COSSACK.

of the Caucasus, with his queer cartridge-tubes on the breast of his coat, his long yataghan and longer carbine, is a warlike figure enough—a wonderfully set-up figure—showing what may be done by drill and military education. We can hardly recognise in him the descendant of those barbarous hordes of which we heard so much in the old time. He is, perhaps, the most warlike figure in the group; but then it must be remembered that the Circassian keeps his panoply of war at home; only when there is fighting to be done does he assume a helmet and cape of mail, and throw aside some of his loose garments in favour of a more convenient if less graceful costume.

## PROVINCIAL COSTUMES OF FRANCE.

While we are on the subject of costumes, and of those wonderful lay figures which have been so attractive to the visitors to the various courts where they are exhibited, it is necessary to notice the admirable groups showing the people of the Loire Inférieure, the country round Strasbourg, and the villages about Mecklenburg "in their habits as they live."

The first of these are surely amongst the most wonderful examples of dress now remaining in Europe, especially the rig of the male peasantry, which looks as though it had been composed by the indiscriminate adoption of sundry articles "taken as they came" from some theatrical costumier. This is the way they dress at Sables d'Olonne, the ancient Areno Aulonenses, in the Vendée, a seaport which stands on a peninsula almost separated from the sea, and consisting of three or four long streets. More sedate, but still quiet and picturesque, is the Alsace dress of the peasantry in the environs of Strasbourg, while the cleanly-shaved Mecklenburgers, in their neat postillion suits, which are admirable for a well-built manly figure, but must look rather queer on very flat, or very short, very thin, or over tall fellows, seem to have somebody worth dressing for in the remarkably pretty and piquant-looking girls, who are rendered more bewitching by their smart holiday attire.

These costume-figures will be among the best-remembered sights of the Great Exhibition, by the juvenile visitors, at all events; but they almost yield in interest to the living and moving types of nationalities which have been seen every day. They are growing fewer and fewer, these illustrious foreigners; and the Japanese, the Turk, the Chinaman, the Egyptian, the Nubian, the Arab will soon disappear before the cold that is already threatening the line of the Boulevards. Some of them will remain, doubtless—will open "boutiques" and overdo Lutetia with more gimbicks of the Palais Royal sort or with strange tobaccos, and canes, and paper wares; but the true native of warmer climes is already becoming scarce. Even in the park, where the grand models of the Oriental buildings stand, there are few of the sons of the Prophet. The Temple of Egypt, the Grand Mosque, and the Viceroy's Pavilion are there in all their glory. There is a slight agitation for letting them remain; but there will be few more sketches taken of them, even in the note-books of enthusiastic admirers, especially as the English families are taking wing, and the London season and the necessity for ordering coals and preparing for Christmas are drawing our dear countrywomen to London. Talking of that, the most characteristic sketch that you have yet received is the one herewith; and your readers may rest assured that there have been few greater attractions to a large part of the male Parisian population than the

## ENGLISH VISITORS.

There have been all sorts of caricatures in the French broadsheets and humorous journals, no doubt—caricatures very cleverly executed, and professing to portray the mode Britannique; but, after all, these are only levelled against those tourists who either adopt preposterous costumes of their own, or who, still more preposterously, copy the latest French fashions in a clumsy English edition. There have been English groups to be seen about the great building which would bear comparison with those of any other country, and the admiration of the *gaulins* for the "Engelclesh mees" has been altogether unmistakable. Just such a group as is here alluded to may have been noticed in the vestibule amidst a motley assembly, including Nubians, famous Tyrolese sharpshooters, turbaned Turks; slowly moving, mysterious, hairy-shrouded Arabs; grisettes, Spanish belles, bold Basque beauties, simple Norman housewives, Italian dames, and the bright, lively, kindly Parisian ladies, who seem able to make any dress become. It was a gay, sweet, fresh, laughing little company. Fair young mother, in all the dignity of a Bath chair, or the French substitute for that convenience; fairer and younger buds from the parent rose occupying a perch in the same vehicle, and a bevy of pretty conscious sisters and aunts surrounding the triumphal chariot, beside which the British husband and father, also consciously, and with rather merrily and noisily, walks. Now it is this very consciousness which, nine times out of ten, makes the Briton awkward, and gives to our national manners that too *prononce* appearance which is mistaken for bumpituousness. English men and women are self-conscious, and are *conscious* of that self-consciousness. The French, on the contrary, are even more self-conscious, but are unconscious of the fact. The result is that the Briton, hearing his own voice, detecting whatever little clumsiness there may be in his own bearing, is at once plunged into *mauvais honte*, and tries to conceal the disaster by the assumption of hauteur. What German writer was it, or was it a keen English novelist, who said that an Englishman would almost die of shame, and think the eyes of the whole world were upon him, if he had to stop in the street to tie his shoe? Well, the Englishmen, and notably the Englishwomen, in Paris have many of them failed by this exaggerated self-consciousness, especially where they have adopted the *mode de Paris*, and appeared in those hussar bottines and looped dresses designed to exhibit the legs from the knee downwards, on most opportunities. The effect of this costume on a large majority of the Parisians has been to prove what we in England scarcely imagined before—that most Frenchwomen have rather large feet; but they often carry their feet very well, and—well, somehow they are so accustomed to eccentricities of costume that they are sublimely indifferent to legs, and bottines, and all other vagaries.

Englishwomen fail there; and so the most attractive of our countrywomen at the Paris Exhibition have been those who retained their ordinary attire, and even though they were a little too ready to make the tour of the palace en cortège, were received with ready recognition by their Parisian sisters, who, whatever may be their faults, are amongst the frankest and most generous admirers of even rival beauty, and the quickest respondents to a friendly smile in the world.

**THE ENGLISH PRIZE-WINNERS AT THE BELGIAN TIR NATIONAL.**—The directors of the Belgian Tir National have just issued the list of prize-winners, by which it is shown that the English volunteers who visited Brussels during the fêtes were even more successful than it was supposed they were. In the long-distance shooting the handful of our shooting volunteers who had ammunition sufficient to continue firing for more than a few hours, were particularly successful, as will be seen from the following enumeration of the "valencures"—In the *cible à volonté*, in which the competitors could enter as often as they pleased, Mr. Russell, of the 24th Kent, won the first prize—a purse containing 400*fr.*, he having made 22 points in his five shots. Colour-Sergeant Cortis, of Worthing, won the second prize—a purse containing 300*fr.*, he also having made 22 points. Mr. Wyatt, of the London Rifle Brigade, won the sixth prize—a purse containing 100*fr.*, with 20 points. Dr. Ryan, of the South Middlesex, won the ninth prize, 75*fr.*, with 19 points; and Captain Field, of the Honourable Artillery Company, won the seventeenth—a purse of 50*fr.* Prizes were also given for the most *blancs*; and the second, a handsome medal of honour, was won by Colour Sergeant Cortis. In the long range (*cible fixe*), in which each competitor was only allowed two series of five shots, Mr. Wyatt, with 21 points, won the second prize, given by the Government, six "envelopes" of silver (twelve pieces of plate), with 21 points. The fifth prize, of the same character, was won by Lieutenant Paget, of the 87th Regiment, stationed at Walmer, with 18 points. The eighth prize was won by Mr. Cortis, and consisted of four *couverts*. The nineteenth prize, two *couverts*, was won by Mr. Russell; and the 30th, one *couvert*, was won by Captain Field, who, it should be remarked, has won *couverts* here before. At the short range of 25 metres (about 240 yards) Mr. Russell, in the *cible à volonté*, won two prizes for "blancs"; and Mr. Wyatt at the short range, with two more *couverts* for points, making 23, which brought him the twentieth prize. Mr. Russell, in the course of his shooting, made 152 blancs, and a silver cup was given to him for that achievement.

## OPERA AND CONCERTS.

THE musical dull season is to be broken in upon for a week or more by a series of performances at Her Majesty's Theatre, the first of which will be given on the 28th inst. Mdlle. Titien will be the prima donna, Mr. Hohler the tenor, Mdlle. Baumeister the seconda donna, Mr. Santley and Signer Toli the baritone and bass—or bass and baritone, for it is not always easy to distinguish between the two.

Mr. Augustus Harris, of the Royal Italian Opera, who lately visited St. Petersburg to undertake the duties of stage-manager at the Imperial Opera House, has returned from the north and is now in Paris.

Mr. Barrett, of Her Majesty's Theatre, is also reported to be in Paris. If any new singer of real attractiveness should happen just now to be in the French capital, and should fail to be engaged by one of those enterprising gentlemen, we would not give much for his singer's chance of not falling into the hands of the other.

Mdlle. Nilsson has reappeared at the Théâtre Lyrique with great success, as *Martha*, and as the Queen of Night in the "Magic Flute." These are almost the only parts that Mdlle. Nilsson has undertaken in Paris—absolutely the only ones, as far as we can remember. But how often has she played? The part of *Martha* more than two hundred, that of *Astrafiammento* more than three hundred times.

We hear, to continue our Paris news, that at the Théâtre Italien "Lucia" is announced, with Mdlle. Adelina Patti in the character of the heroine, and Signor Mongini as Edgardo. The representation in question was to have taken place last week, but was postponed in consequence of Signor Mongini's sudden indisposition, an indisposition easily accounted for by the detestable cold wind and rain which have visited Paris during the last week or two.

At the French Opera "La Fiancée de Corinthe" is still announced, and will positively be produced, it is said, in a few days.

Finally, Mdlle Schneider—with Mdlle. Patti and Mdlle. Nilsson both in Paris and both appearing two or three times a week—continues to be the most popular singer of the day. On the occasion of her benefit, last Monday, the stalls at the Variétés were sold for 86*fr.* a piece. Of course, the "Grande Duchesse de Gérolstein," or at least one act of that piece—the act which contains the too celebrated "Dites lui"—was played.

**CHRISTY MINSTRELS.**—The celebrated Ethiopian troupe which for some time past has, with remarkable success, held possession of St. James's Hall, commenced their winter season on Monday evening by extending the programme and introducing a large number of new songs and entertainments. The company, too, has been augmented by the reappearance of Mr. Collins, who is exceedingly happy in his impersonation of Chinese character in what is termed "Pns de Five," performed by Messrs. Moore, Crocker, Norton, Anderson, and Sterling, under the title of "Chin-Chin-Chi-Hi." The company is as strong as ever, and their performances have an air of novelty, resulting from the introduction of a variety of new songs, which were sung for the first time on Monday night with great success. Amongst these was a serenade, "I am Waiting for Thee," which was very sweetly sung by Mr. Ernest, and loudly applauded. The class of entertainment provided by the Christys is so well known as to render any description unnecessary. Suffice it to say that, although there has been no interval between the seasons, there can be no doubt that they will continue to enjoy that popularity which they have hitherto commanded.

**A MORNING'S AMUSEMENT.**—Any gentleman who liked eccentric amusement might easily have obtained it on Tuesday last. Putting himself in a harness after a cup of coffee and a glass of curaçao, let us suppose him to drive first to Newgate. In front of that hideous gaol he sees a scaffold erected, and at eight o'clock a lot of about thirty is brought out. They are going to hang him for murdering a woman who lived with him. He struggles; he fights frantically with his warders; he shrieks that he is innocent. But the rope is forced round his neck at last, and the reiterated word "Innocent" is cut in two as he drops into air, and his soul goes . . . whether? "Drive fast, my man!" Craftaff has to go through a similar operation in Surrey at ten: why not see both? This is a Frenchman we are going to hang; he also has murdered a woman. He shames his English rival by going quietly to his death, disdaining futile resistance. Still the body of a man one has just killed is a queer object as it dangles from the rope. "Psaw! what matter?" "Cabinet, to Bow-street." There was to have been a prize-fight to-day, but the illustrious ruffian Jim Mac has been seized by the police, and is before the magistrate. Pity we can't see him pounded to a jelly; at any rate, let us say we have beheld him in handcuffs. And now, home to breakfast. A few kidneys, a slice of *pâté*, some coffee, a bottle of hock, will be pleasant after all this excitement. Let us talk over England's civilisation.—*Echoes from the Clubs.*

**THE NEW REFORM ACT AND ITS INTERPRETATION.**—Mr. Tomlinson, Q.C., to whom the overseers of Bishopsgate-in-the-East referred their case on the rating of tenemented property, under the provisions of the new Reform Act, has delivered his opinion. We believe the interpretation given by the learned gentleman will be accepted and acted upon by the whole of the overseers in Sunderland; and the effect will be that within the limits of that borough every occupier of a tenement, however small, will be rated to the relief of the poor and registered as a Parliamentary voter for the borough. The "case" supplied various illustrations of the modes of letting and occupying the different classes of houses in the town, including the case of a house wholly let out in separate apartments, and at present rated to the owner, instead of the occupier, under the Small Tenements Rating Act. On this Mr. Tomlinson holds that where parts of houses have been occupied as separate dwellings, and the owners rated under the Small Tenements Act, the owners' liability to be rated has now ceased. With regard to the words "not separately rated," in the excepting proviso of the seventh clause, on which so much stress has been laid, he is of opinion that they imply non-hability to be separately rated, and that the specific exception must, therefore, be limited to peculiar cases in which persons may not be liable to be separately rated as occupiers. Generally, the learned gentleman is of opinion that the overseers must now assess the poor rate on the description of [tenemented] houses mentioned in the "case," in precisely the same manner as if the Small Tenements Rating Act had never been passed.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

**SERGEANT-SURGEON TO THE SOVEREIGN.**—The sergeant-surgeon to the Sovereign has been conferred on Sir William Ferguson, F.R.S., senior surgeon to King's College Hospital, Professor of Surgery to the school attached to that institution, and a member of the council and court of examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons. The revived appointment of Sergeant-Surgeon Extraordinary has been conferred on Mr. James Paget, F.R.S., senior surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and also a member of the council of the College of Surgeons, in which institution both these gentlemen have filled the chairs of Professor of Surgery. The appointment of Sergeant-Surgeon to the Sovereign is one of great antiquity and responsibility; one of the duties is to attend the King on all occasions when going to battle. Thus it appears that in 1349 John of Arden, whose works are contained in the library of the Royal College of Surgeons, accompanied Edward III. to the Battle of Crissey, when the Black Prince took from the King of Bohemia his arms, being three ostrich feathers, which have ever since been borne by succeeding Princes of Wales. The first well-authenticated appointment, Dr. Maynor, stated some months since in the *Medical Times and Gazette*, was in 1451, when the barber-surgeons were incorporated, and William Hobys received the appointment, with 40 marks per annum for his pains; the perquisites were afterwards increased when Thomas Morstede, surgeon to Henry V., accompanied that King in his invasion of France, and was required to press as many surgeons as he thought necessary. It appears from *Rymers Fœdera* that with the army which won the day at Agincourt there landed only one surgeon, this same Thomas Morstede, who did indeed engage fifteen in that capacity; but these gentlemen were compelled to add a little fighting to their practice of surgery, and three of them acted as archers. He took into his service also Nicolas Colnet, as field surgeon for one year. With such a medical staff, what must have been the state of the wounded after the day of battle? The pay was £10 per annum, paid quarterly, with twelve pennies daily for subsistence; but then both Morstede and Colnet could receive prisoners and plunder, and when the latter amounted to more than £20 in value a third part of it was given to the King; they were afterwards allowed to draw two "butties of sack" per annum from the Royal cellars, to retain all the napkins and other fine linen used in dressing the wounds of the Sovereign. The Sergeant-Surgeon was, moreover, the twelfth person in rank, and took precedence accordingly; for curing a flesh wound that was not dangerous he was allowed no other perquisite than such of the garnments as were stained with blood, but for curing any of the dangerous or mortal wounds he was allowed a fee of 18*s.* and his maintenance, in addition to the blood-stained garments. Morstede was the author of some "goodly booke on chirurgery," and, although they will not bear comparison with the works of Ferguson and Paget, they did good service in their day, and then, as now, were frequently made use of by other and obscure writers. The perquisites of the office have since been commuted by an annual stipend. Until lately the Sergeant-Surgeons claimed, and were admitted by virtue of a Royal charter to, seats in the Council and Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons. This, however, has been repealed, and, as already stated, Sir William Ferguson holds seats in both departments, and Mr. Paget in the council.

**THE STATE OF WORKMEN** engaged at present in demolishing the fortifications of Luxembourg consists of three men and a boy.

## THE MURDER IN BLOOMSBURY.

THE inquest on the guardsman McDonnell, who was shot in Bloomsbury was resumed on Monday. The proceedings were of an interesting character. The police have, it seems, found a woman who saw Groves and a dark man following McDonnell and his friends, and who afterwards heard Groves say he had shot the wrong man. This woman was examined at the inquest. Her name is Anna Maria Janman, and she is the wife of a journeyman butcher. Her story is that she had been to a theatre with her husband on the night of Sept. 27. He had drunk to deeply, and when they got into the street they quarrelled, and she left him near the Bull and Anchor Inn, Holborn. Just as she parted from her husband she saw two men come from the Bull and Anchor. One was tall and fair, the other short and dark. Near to the Bull and Anchor the tall man put on a false beard and moustache of long, light hair. They went into the Turk's Head, and directly afterwards McDonnell and his two friends went into the house. These three soon came out, and were followed by the two men she had first seen. She lost sight of them for a few minutes, and heard the report of fire-arms. This frightened her, and she ran into Oxford-street. Here she saw the two men running up from the Bloomsbury direction, and heard one of them say he had shot the wrong one, and was sorry he had not fired a second time. She was taken up to the House of Detention, and when she came back to the coroner's court it was announced that she had identified Groves. She was cross-examined at some length, and, among other additions to her evidence, said when she saw the two men come from the Bull and Anchor she heard one of them say to the other, "Come along, Groves." Partly contradicting this evidence was that of Mrs. Byrne, the landlady of the Turk's Head, and one of her barmaids, who said Groves was not in the house after half-past one o'clock on the night of Sept. 27. The inquest was adjourned.

The man Groves underwent another long examination at Bow-street Police Court, on Tuesday. A witness named Cox swore that he saw the prisoner near to the scene of the murder shortly before it was committed. One of his statements was in curious contradiction of the woman Janman. She stated of the two men whom she saw together that the prisoner was taller than the other—the dark man. Cox swore that the dark man was much taller than the prisoner. It was elicited from him that he had given evidence on five or six previous occasions for the police, and Mr. Sleight thereupon declined to cross-examine him further. A bearded man deposed that he had sold a long, light beard to a person like the prisoner, but he could not swear to his identity. The woman Janman was examined, and gave testimony similar to that she deposed to at the inquest, but exhibiting, however, some curious inconsistencies. It would almost seem that the prosecution is not quite satisfied of the value of her evidence. Groves was again remanded.

**LORD BROUGHAM** will probably spend the winter in the south of England, instead of proceeding to his château at Cannes, as has been his wont of late years. The venerable Peer, who a month ago attained his ninetieth year, is at present at Brougham Hall. He enjoys good health, takes drives in the neighbourhood of his residence when the weather is favourable, and devotes a good deal of time indoors to letter-writing.

**PERSISTENCE REWARDED.**—For upwards of thirty years a Mdlle. Solix has been well known in the Paris courts of law as a litigant claiming a large property, which she alleged to be unjustly withheld from her. Poor, but persistent, she was to be seen at all times, with her papers and documents, in the purloins of the Palais de Justice seeking out or conferring with her counsel. Some time back Mdlle. Solix had an offer of \$80,000. to compromise her claim, but she refused, and her perseverance has had its reward, since the Civil Tribunal has just given a decision in her favour, by which she becomes possessed of property at Mont St. Michel worth upwards of £1,500,000. She still claims a further amount of 315,000*fr.*

**NORTH GERMAN ARMY.**—Some semi-official statistics, showing the strength and composition of the army of the North German Confederation, have been published. It will include the Prussian Guards and six armies, each made up of two corps d'armée. The bulk of the whole force is the Prussian contingent. This consists of 162 regiments of infantry, thirteen battalions of chasseurs, sixty-five regiments of cavalry, twelve regiments of field and nine of siege artillery, twelve battalions of pioneers, and twelve battalions of train. The newly-annexed States supply, in addition, sixteen regiments of infantry, five battalions of chasseurs, eleven regiments of cavalry, one regiment of field and one of siege artillery, and a battalion of pioneers and train respectively.

**EPPING FOREST.**—The Epping Forest Preservation Society is at present through the instrumentalities of its committee, making strenuous exertions to prevent the extensive inclosures of land in the forest. The society asserts that these inclosures are being made in utter defiance of right, and that many of those who build houses there are utterly unable, after their houses have been sold, to give a title to the purchasers. It further contends that the rights of the lords of the manor are limited, and Chancery suits have been instituted with view to restraining the lord of the manor of Loughton from inclosing nearly 1400 acres of forest land. These proceedings will be watched with interest by those who have regarded Epping Forest as a place for the use and recreation of the people.

**AN AGED PAUPER.**—The Canterbury board of guardians had a remarkable "case" before them on Tuesday. A widow had applied for relief, and the relieving officer, on calling at the house to make inquiries, found a half-old woman kneeling down scrubbing her cottage floor. She was the applicant, and in answer to the officer's questions she said she was 102 years old; and that she had been married twice, each time to a soldier; and that she had accompanied one husband all through the Peninsular campaign. The relieving officer thought her statements so remarkable as to need some corroboration. He examined the parish registry, and ascertained that the statement as to age was quite correct. The old woman is in possession of all her faculties, and is extraordinarily active for one of so great an age. The guardians made an allowance of 4*s.* per week.

**DEATH OF ELIAS HOWE, JUN., THE INVENTOR OF THE SEWING-MACHINE.**—Mr. Elias Howe, jun., the inventor of the sewing-machine, died, on the 3rd ult., in the midst of his family and friends, at Bridgeport, Connecticut. His funeral took place on Sunday, the 6th, at Cambridgeport, Mass. Elias Howe was born in 1819, at Spencer, in Massachusetts. It was at Boston, in the shop of Ari Davis, where he first thought of the sewing-machine. It was four years from the time that his curiosity was first awakened to his application of his mind to that which afterwards proved the great object of his life. Poverty for some time prevented the development of his ideas, but in 1841 he succeeded in convincing a friend with some means of the feasibility of his conception. In April, 1845, he sewed a seam with his machine, and by May of the same year he had completed his work.

**OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE STREETS.**—Several important amendments are made in the law with respect to obstructions in the streets in the new Metropolitan Traffic Act, which will come into force on Nov. 1. No goods or articles are to remain in the streets for any longer period than is absolutely necessary to the unloading or loading. An addition has now been made which will prevent the exposure of goods in the public thoroughfares within four miles from Charing-cross (the general limits of the Act) beyond the shops. The words are, "For the purposes of this Act the surface of any space over which the public have the right of way that intervenes in any street within the general limits of this Act between the footway and the carriageway shall, notwithstanding any claim of any person by prescription or otherwise to the deposit or exposure for sale of any goods or other articles on such surface, be deemed to be part of the footway."

**STRANGE DISCOVERY.**—A discovery has been made in Staffordshire, at a little village named Arley, five miles from Bewdley. In a wood adjacent to this hamlet are some old shafts of mines long disused. The shafts have become filled with water, and were locally believed to be merely wells. Some charcoal-burners, wanting water, lowered a bucket and brought up in it a piece of clothing. Trying again, a child's body was found; and, a regular investigation having been set on foot, two other bodies of children were discovered. At least one of these bodies bears witness to the manner of its death, and there can be little doubt that all three were murdered. The medical evidence leads to the belief that about eighteen months have elapsed since one of the bodies was thrown into the shaft. But, as the other remains are still further decomposed, there is a suspicion that these old shafts have been systematically used for concealing child-murder.

**THE LAST STORY ABOUT MR. SPURGEON.**—Mr. Spurgeon's illness, says a correspondent, has caused some anxiety amongst the multitude of his admirers. There is so much humour about him, as well as originality and genuine kindly feeling, that he is a general favourite. The last story I heard of him—there is generally one afloat, and I hope this is not an old one—is to the following effect:—A short time back a clergyman of the Established Church expressed to a Dissenting acquaintance a desire to hear Mr. Spurgeon, and asked to be informed of the place and hour, in the event of a preaching visit to the neighbourhood. A visit of the kind happened to be soon afterwards made, and the clergyman, hearing of it, went with his wife to the service. The reverend gentleman, who was put in a front place up in the gallery, by the side of the pulpit, was an attentive listener, and saw a good deal of merit in the sermon. When it was over a collection was made, the organist indulging in a voluntary during the proceeding. The clergyman, having put his contribution into the plate, thought he would not wait for the concluding prayer, but would get out before the crowd was in motion, and he signalled his wife to rise. But it was no easy task to pass before the other occupants of the pew; and the clergyman, getting nervous at the rustling of dresses and knocking down of books, pulled his wife's dress, and whispered to her to come back. She, however, thought the worst was past, and continued her journey. Again he tried to stop her, with the same result; when Mr. Spurgeon, who had been looking on, and who did not like the situation in an instant, leaned gently over the side of the pulpit, and catching the clergyman's eye, said in a low but perfectly audible tone—humorous to the full—"You had better go, Sir, or you'll hear more of it!" A joke from a preacher or a judge goes further than a joke from anyone else; but there was real fun in this, and no one was more amused by it than the reverend individual whose domestic experiences were so foretold.



